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COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Year Begins

HONGKONG enters into a new year with what might fairly be described as cautious optimism. Nineteen fifty-three was by no means the Colony's happiest year, yet it possessed its compensations. Uppermost in the minds of the community is whether 1954 will produce new world conditions that will enable the Colony to recapture its commerce and trading prosperity to a degree where it can once again point to full employment and freedom from economic fear. Hongkong weathered last year's business recession in typical style. Politically it was free of worry, but the shrinking monthly trade returns told their own story, and much more effectively than rhetoric, of the economic blight which accompanies embargoes and trading restrictions. The first hopes engendered by the signing of an armistice in Korea were not sustained by subsequent developments, and at this moment there are no really encouraging signs that these hindrances to normal trading will be quickly removed. Nevertheless, the last year ended with the United States adopting a much more liberal attitude to the Colony's economic and trading problems and showing a willingness to relax as far as possible controls on direct commercial dealings with the Colony. The expectation this year is that there will be a further, though probably very gradual, removal of superfluous impositions on international trading. In the field of domestic finances the new year is not expected to bring about any startling changes, pleasant or otherwise. The Colony's revenues, despite losses in some directions, remain buoyant. At this time there is no reason to believe that Government will find need to call on the public for additional contributions in the way of taxation. There is, however, this reservation to be remembered: if the projected extension of Kai Tak airport is put in hand during 1954, the possibility of increased taxation to finance the undertaking cannot be ruled out. If it is wise, however, Government will put aside that proposition, at least until we have seen what 1954 brings forth in the way of improved business and increased revenues. It would be a psychologically poor decision to introduce new taxation measures in the next Budget.

Peak Murder: Woman Found

Strangled NEW YEAR'S EVE CRIME AT HARLECH RD

The body of a young well-dressed Chinese woman was found on the firing point of the Peak military firing range, Harlech Road, at 9.30 a.m. yesterday.

The woman, who has been identified by the Police as Sally Tong, a clerk in a local business firm, was found by a Sanitary Department coolie making his early rounds.

The coolie called the Police who found on arrival that she had been strangled to death sometime during the night of New Year's Eve.

Enquiries are continuing, but up to this morning no arrests had been made.



LORD NORWICH

Sudden Death Of Lord Norwich

Madrid, Jan. 1.

Lord Norwich (formerly Mr. Duff Cooper) died suddenly today aboard the French steamship Colombie before the ship entered the Spanish port of Vigo.

The Colombie was understood to be on her way to the West Indies on a holiday cruise.

Soldier, statesman and author, Lord Norwich, who was 68, was a man of great international knowledge and wide culture. He was created First Viscount Norwich in 1952.

He was Secretary of State for War from 1935 to 1937 and then became First Lord of the Admiralty and was Britain's wartime Minister of Information in 1940 and 1941.

In 1935, he became a Cabinet Minister, but he resigned his post as First Lord of the Admiralty at the time of Munich rather than to be party to Chamberlain's deal with Hitler.

He was born on February 22, 1886, and in 1919 he married Lady Diana Manners, actress and famous beauty. He was knighted in 1948 after serving for the last few years of the war and the early postwar period as Ambassador to France.

He was accompanied by his wife.

Lord Norwich's death was from natural causes, but no further details were immediately available.

Lady Norwich who was travelling with her husband, came ashore from the Colombie and is staying in Vigo.

Efforts are being made to arrange a special plane to fly Lord Norwich's body back to England direct from Vigo—Reuter.

A P.O.W. CHANGES HIS MIND

Panmunjom, Jan. 1.

A 24-year-old American, held in a neutral prison stockade with 21 other US converts to Communism, walked up to an Indian guard today and said he would like to go home.

He is Private f/c. Claude J. Bacheor, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Bacheor of Kismet, Texas, Mex. Y. Longue d'Espérance, for the Indian, questioned today, said Bacheor had no difficulty requesting repatriation, explaining that he "simply walked up to the guard at the main gate and said he wanted to go home."

Bacheor has a Japanese wife in Tokyo.

The young soldier is the second of the initial group of 23 Americans who chose self-exile to change his mind and come home.

The first was Pfc. Edward Dickinson, of Crockett, Texas, who rejected Communism two months ago.

FATHER'S REACTION

Oceanside, Texas, Dec. 31.

Pfc. Claude J. Bacheor's father, who has "a lot of boys," learned at a bus station tonight that his son, Claude, had rejected Communism in Korea and is coming home.

"Oh, God," said O.L. Bacheor, 48-year-old oilfield driller and father of eight children. "I don't know what to say or what to think."

"But I've been thinking all along that this would happen. I've never given up hope," United Press.

Off To Moscow On "Big Business"

London, Jan. 1.

A party of 40 British businessmen will leave in a few days for Moscow in a bid to sell British goods to Russia. They are going with the blessings of the British Foreign Office and Britain's Board of Trade.

"We are out for business—big business," said their leader, the managing-director of a large electrical engineering concern today. Heavy and light engineering firms are represented in the party but they refused to disclose details of what they are trying to sell and what terms they want.

This "New Year trade mission" seems to be the first attempt to follow up a recent declaration by the Federation of British Industries, the manufacturers' association, calling for more trade with Russia, China and the Eastern bloc countries.

Trade with the nations now comprising the Soviet bloc was about six per cent of Britain's total trade before the war, according to official figures. Since the war, it has been about two per cent.

The decrease has been largely due to the ban on the export of "strategic" materials to the Eastern nations.

The Federation of British Industries urged in a recent report that trade in non-

The "Yard" Loses 4 Top Men

London, Jan. 1.

Scotland Yard has lost four of its best sleuths in the last week. All four have handed in their resignations.

The first to go was Commander Hugh Young, generally regarded as Britain's leading detective. The second was Chief Superintendent Arthur Thorpe of the Fraud Squad and the third to go was Detective Superintendent John Nell Black, who directed inquiries in several recent famous cases. Today's resignation is that of Detective Inspector George Dunn, Assistant Chief of the Fingerprint Bureau.

No reasons for this latest resignation were revealed. As far as Inspector Dunn is concerned, it was believed here that he was leaving because of disagreement with Commissioner-General of Police on the re-organisation of personnel in the Fingerprint Department—France-Press.

FIRE VICTIMS RELIEF FUND

Donations to the Shum-shupho Fire Victims Relief Fund received after 2 p.m. on New Year's Eve have brought the total of the fund up to \$11,488.

A detailed list of the latest subscribers will appear in tomorrow's Sunday Post Herald.

Opium Smuggler Caught

London, Jan. 1.

A Chinese seaman living in Bombay, Tam Young-sun, was today fined £250 or three weeks' imprisonment for fraudulently attempting to evade customs declaration on ten pounds of raw opium on Christmas Eve.

Tam was a carpenter on board the freighter Muristan which is manned mainly by Indian seamen. He told the police he got the opium at Aden.

This was the largest amount of opium to come into the hands of British police for some time—France-Press.

SHIPS COLLIDE

Flushing, Jan. 1.

The 2,690-ton German motorship, Autburg, was heavily damaged in a collision with the 10,142-ton British freighter, Benroch, in the Scheldt Estuary early today.

The British ship was able to continue its journey from Antwerp to London.

The German vessel anchored off Flushing—Reuter.

Other world cables will be found on Page 3 and the back page.

Yesterday's Valley racing results and winning cash sweep numbers appear on Page 17.

Berlin Conference Date Agreement

London, Jan. 2.

Britain, France and the United States today signed off nearly two years of correspondence with Russia by agreeing to the Soviet proposal of January 25 as the opening of the Berlin foreign ministers conference.

Their 200-word note—handed over in Moscow today—was one of the shortest ever sent to Moscow. It accepted the Soviet suggestion that the four High Commissioners in Germany meet to discuss the conference site. But it insisted that the former Allied Control Council building—situated in the American sector but regarded as "neutral" territory—offered the best facilities for the conference.

The Western acceptance of January 25 date still does not guarantee that the meeting will open on time, diplomatic sources said today.

Two factors have yet to be reckoned with. The formation of a new French Government, following the installation of the new President on January 17, and a four-power agreement on the conference site.

DEBATING POINT

If the recent foreign affairs debate in the French National Assembly and the Presidential election are any guide, it may take France much more than a week to form a new administration.

The projected European army treaty is bound to be one of the hottest debating points at the Berlin conference, and the French foreign affairs debate showed that there is no majority in the Chamber for ratification of the 18-month-old treaty that sets it up.

Whoever the French Foreign Minister is at the Berlin conference, he will have no parliamentary mandate for pleading for the EDC.

In their last vote to the West, the Russians did not reject the proposal that the Big Four should meet in the Control Council building. But the fact that they suggested the question clearly means they have other ideas to put forward—Reuter.

Japan Wins GATT Privileges

Our Own Correspondent

London, Dec. 31.

Twenty out of 34 countries have agreed to give Japan benefits of membership of the GATT "tariff club." This means that in future Japanese exports will enjoy the same tariff treatment in these countries as those of other GATT signatories.

Today was the last day that member countries could sign the Geneva Declaration to that effect.

Those who did so were Austria, Belgium, Burma, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Finland, Haiti, India, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Western Germany, the United States and Uruguay.

Three of these agreed within the past few days to conduct their commercial relations with Japan in accordance with the provisions of GATT. Pakistan informed the GATT Secretariat on Christmas Day that she accepted the Declaration. Uruguay signed on Tuesday and Burma yesterday.

Late tonight GATT officials in Geneva were still awaiting an Indonesian decision.

SURPRISING SUPPORT

The number of countries which have decided to give Japan the benefits of GATT membership is surprisingly large, the most optimistic forecast made by the Japanese delegates to the recent GATT conference was that 17 or 18 members would sign the declaration.

The question of Japan's admission to GATT has opened wide the split in Commonwealth foreign trade policy.

As expected, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, all of whom abstained from voting on the decision to allow Japan to participate in the work of GATT, have refused to sign the Declaration.

But the Eastern dominions of India, Pakistan and Ceylon have followed up their affirmative vote with the decision to give Japanese exports equal rights in their domestic markets.

Canada also voted for Japan's admission, but stated at the time that her future relations with Japan would be the subject of separate talks.

It is pointed out in London that the United Kingdom already gives most favoured nation treatment to Japan, but for political and other reasons does not wish to give formal assent to this de facto arrangement.



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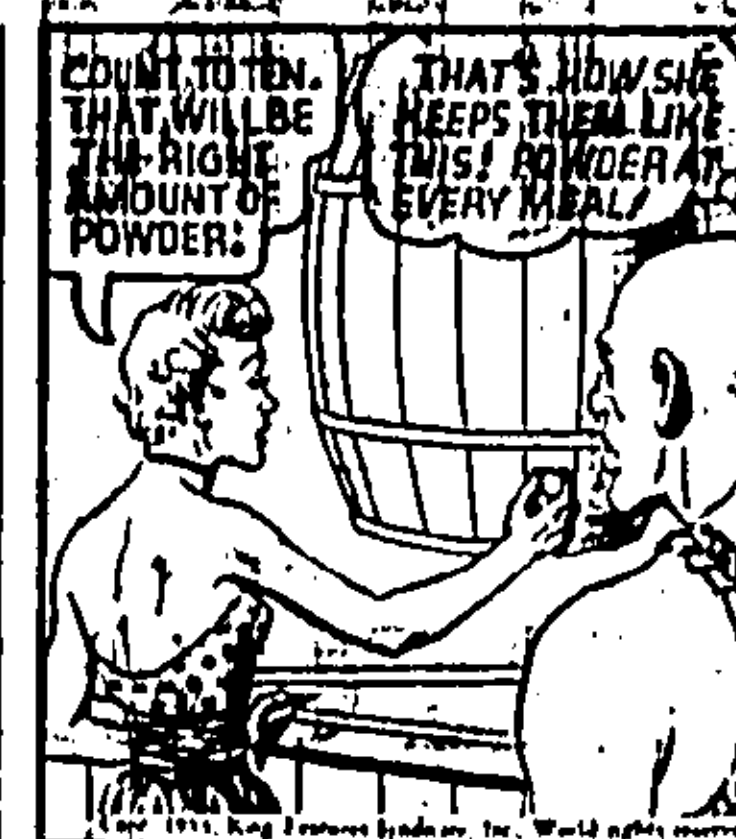
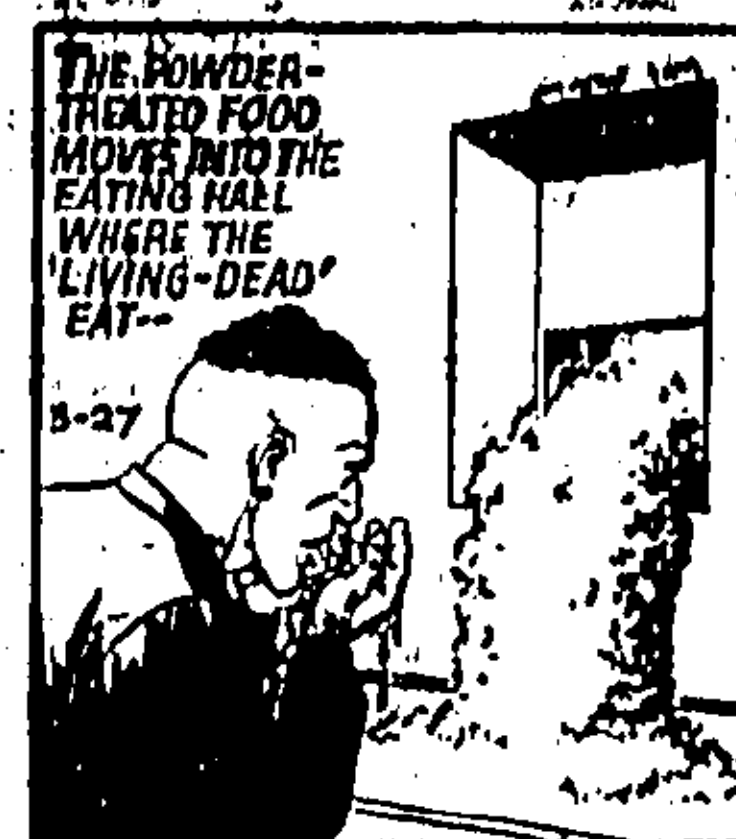
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FILMS—CURRENT AND COMING

By MARGARET BRUCE

In amongst a fanfare of off-putting publicity for "The Robe" I notice a supreme understatement that is quite staggering in its audacity—"This film is greater than IVANHOE." For once I am mystified by the modesty of the publicity agents. They are right, mind you. This film is greater than "Ivanhoe." There any comparison should end. Even without cinema-scope the film is one of the finest made. Its subject alone lifts it into a class by itself and it's a subject that is handled with delicacy and care.

You know the story by now—Marcellus, a young Roman Tribune, is in command at the Crucifixion. He draws lots for, and wins, Christ's Robe. Remorse nearly drives him insane and in his struggles to investigate the power of this Robe over him—and the truth behind it—he is converted to Christianity, and finally martyred in the cause.

This betrothed, Diana, Tibertus Caesar's ward—dies with him, by choice, but Demetrius, his ex-slave, lives to join Peter, The Big Fisherman, to whom the Robe is left.

IMPRESSED

I went in fear at the possibilities, but I came away impressed and moved by this really great film. It is not flawless—Cinemascope with its teething troubles is in itself almost a handicap—the noise is overpowering at times—in fact it appears to distort itself in its efforts.

But it is obviously the coming thing. Although not in 3D, it gives a wonderful illusion of depth and reality, but here again the makers will have to realise that a flat, painted backdrop becomes immediately obvious. Two other troubles spring from the width of the screen and the remedies are expensive. First of all, as you know, the screen is concave and the centre of the curve being farther from the eye, the screen appears to get narrower.

This makes the figures seem squat at times and I think the only answer will be to make the height greater in the middle of the curve.

The other difficulty lies in the fact that you cannot adjust the head in front in a fixed spot, out of the way; as the action moves to another part of the screen so it is again hidden by the head. I foresee all cinemas of the future being built on a steeper slope. Because I am convinced that Cinemascope—better and better Cinemascope—is here to stay. It gives life to the picture and, when they have learned to turn down the volume, stereophonic sound coming from the right quarter, will give conviction to the ear.

TWO FAULTS

With the actual film I found two main faults. The ending, which is pure pantomime with an out-of-place Alleluia chorus thrown in; and—a less disturbing factor during the actual showing—the determination to absolve the Jews from any responsibility in this mammoth crime and to place all the blame on the shoulders of Rome. I think the most people will agree that this is a very unbalanced viewpoint.

The acting, for the most part, is superb. Richard Burton achieves the very nearly impossible to making the role of Marcellus alive, understandable and in no way ridiculous. Jean Simmons is, as always, delightful and decorative as Diana. And quite outstanding is Michael Rennie as the Big Fisherman. It is to be hoped that this actor has now recovered sufficiently from his severe illness to appear often on the screen.

Victor Mature is Demetrius, the Greek slave. The only embarrassing aspect I sustained throughout was watching him, like a chrysalis, bursting from his skin with emotion at the fact of the Cross.

SHORTCOMINGS

The star system reveals its shortcomings in the fact that of all the performances in this film his alone is to be repeated in a sequel, "Demetrius and the Gladiators." I see no reason for it.

I like to think that my criticism can, at times, be constructive, and so I am going to make an appeal now to the Distributors, 20th Century Fox, and to the Cinema Managements of the City and Broadway to consider that business, business, advertisement for both Cinemascope and Marilyn Monroe at the beginning of the programme.

To begin with it is too lengthy that the audience is almost sick of Cinemascope the time "The Robe" starts.

Secondly, whoever could have conceived it as an introduction to such a serious and beautiful film?

I would also urge the psychological value of returning their prices to normal if I thought it would bear fruit.

Another film of ancient Rome and one equally obviously labelled "Greater than Ivanhoe" is the one that excites me week after week in this column—"JULIUS CAESAR." Both screen plays give an unwelcome drama to the locale because both are tragedies dealt with theatrically. And how well the two I cannot help preferring for "JULIUS CAESAR." I like the script.

By the time you read this article the superb documentary film of the CONQUEST OF EVEREST will probably have given way to "DECAMERON NIGHTS" at the LEE & GREAT WORLD.

I hope and expect "EVEREST" will be brought back during school term time, because many children may have missed it at this busy Christmas period, and yet every young member of the Empire should see this pictorial record with pride all senior schools to make more frequent outings to suitable films. It is a wonderfully impressive way of registering a story or an achievement on the mind and memory, and it was with surprise that I heard that such films as "KON TIKI" and even "A Queen is Crowned" were neglected, scholastically in some cases.

NOT FOR THE YOUNG

"DECAMERON NIGHTS", however, is not for the young. This trio of stories from Boccaccio's repertoire has a delectable—perhaps strong—is the word—European flavour. An illusion, designed by Guy Green's beautifully etched and rich photography.

Louis Jourdan plays the 14th Century Italian author whose pursuit of a warmer than usual, and much more sensual, Joan Fontaine, binds together the stories.

The first is a saucy fable about a restless young wife, her

elderly husband and a dashing slave. This is countered by a somewhat melancholy tribute to wifely fidelity, told by the lady. And then, the final story, warm, hier, of an intellectual lady deserted by her reluctant bridegroom.

Both stars appear in all three tales. In all they are delightful. The structure is both witty and charming. I'm sure you should find this most diverting entertainment.

Another Tarzan

I'm happy to be able to say that a new Tarzan film will be shown at these cinemas. I venture to hope that it will come on during the holiday season.

I consider Rita Hayworth extremely well cast as "MISS SADIE THOMPSON" (KING'S, EMPIRE, PRINCESS). After the insipid, watered-down drivelings of her "SALOME," it is a splendid thing to watch her come to life in a dramatic role.

This Columbia remake of Somerset Maugham's "Rain" is a dazzling affair and Miss Hayworth brings to the off-part a flash of brilliance, a punch that wasn't there before.

The story is a deplorably depressing one, and sordid, but it is by far the best thing we have had in 3D so far. If only a way could be devised (and it probably will in time) to do away with glasses and maintain the depth. But Miss Hayworth has a dimension all her own that, to my way of thinking, makes it worth wearing them.

Joe Ferrer too, as Alfred Davidson, the frustrated former who is finally driven to his death by the shady lady's somewhat unsuitable charms, acts as brilliantly as you would expect, and his beautiful voice is even better with stereophonic sound.

Aldo Ray, the Marine Sergeant who offers a belated chance of respectability, is a good foil. (You saw him recently in "LET'S DO IT AGAIN.")

LOTS OF RAIN

If you can stand the rain I recommend this picture, not perhaps for its entertainment but for its interest. You won't be able to overlook the weather. It plays a vital part in the development of the plot and the characters. Its incessant, maddening pounding and slashing beats down on the entire production. I applaud the determination of the EMPIRE to use 3D, but for those who choose, it is available flat at the KING'S & PRINCESS.

I believe that the next feature, certainly at the KING'S, will be in nice contrast, a Martin and Lewis comedy, "SCARED STIFF."

THE QUEEN'S AND ALHAMBRA should now be showing "THE MALTA STORY." A surprisingly disappointing "Guinness" but nevertheless remarkably good film, clearly and movingly told. I reviewed it last week.

So often delightful films come back to the smaller Cinemas, and I take myself to task for not paying more attention to them. If I've already reviewed them there is little point in further talk, but this week I would like to mention "YOUNG BESS."

Jean Simmons has a role really worthy of her talents, and it is without hesitation that I say I consider it one of the best films I remember seeing. Here is your chance not to miss it.

Let us now take our usual glimpse, into the future. "MELBA" is an important film that is coming to Hongkong

within the next few weeks. I have heard a great deal about it, and it seems as if it will be a treat.

It is a fantasy—on the theme of Dame Nellie's life, story. Certainly there is more fiction than fact, provided, but the singing of the Metropolitan Opera star, Patricia Munnell, who has not only a glorious voice but looks, pop, the settings, and the acting of Marjita Hunt as Madame Marchesi, Melba's teacher, make an exciting compensation.

"STREET CORNER" is another quite excellent movie and will be coming to the QUEEN'S and ALHAMBRA in February. This is very nearly a documentary of the women's branch of the London Metropolitan Police. It is, however, skillfully interwoven with three case histories, humanly told, and beautifully acted. Its director has provided an entertainment both humorous and touching and a fitting tribute to the Force it illustrates.

ALL-BRITISH PECK

"THE MILLION POUND NOTE" brings Gregory Peck in his first all-British production. Pinewood Studio's technicians now prophesy that he has earned himself a triple crown in the field of entertainment. He rates one for his dramatic performance, another for his virile adventure films, and now he appears to have taken the world of comedy by storm.

His characterisation of the penniless American in Victorian London who is presented with a banknote for one million pounds—but with conditions attached—is played with that split second timing that marks the master of comedy. "It was made easier for me," Mr Peck admits, "because Mark Twain is a favourite author of mine."

St. Michael Balcon's "THE SQUARE KING" is a realistic drama, already booked for the Colony. It is quite literally packed with punch, as it tells the backstage story of the fight game. The star names make impressive reading—Joan Collins, Rex Kean, Jack Warner, Maxwell Reed and Robert Beatty.

And then, on a lighter note—some fun and frolic in the glamorous South of France where even the crooks seem to be charming; on the screen at any rate. "ALWAYS A BRIDE" tells you what happens to Peggy Cummings and Ronald Squire, the best father and daughter act in the "confidence" business, who work a neat racket outsmarting the smart set.

The shock when Peggy falls in love with an "undercover" man for the British Treasury is too much for her partner in crime, and he promptly bungs the job of "selling" a luxury hotel he happens not to own.

HIGHLIGHT

Another highlight in store is Margaret Rutherford, comedy which also introduces to the screen the comic genius of British Television's Norman Wisdom, "THE KIDNAPPERS" too, should reach us in the not too distant future. Great things are said of this stirring story of pioneering days on the Canadian frontier.

Into a tiny, sprawling Scottish settlement in Nova Scotia come two upstarts, their struggle to win the underpinning of a grandfather, hardened by his rigid, puritanical way of life makes the basis of the story.

I'm happy to say, too, that the fine film "OLIVER TWIST" is being brought back. You'll remember that it includes one of Alec Guinness' earliest and best characterisations—as Fagin.

I would like to take the opportunity of wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

QUEEN'S

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'No Objective Obstacles' Between US & Russia STATEMENT BY MALENKOV

London, Jan. 1.
Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov believes there are "no objective obstacles" to improving relations between Russia and the United States, the official news agency Tass reported tonight.
Malenkov also called anew for the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons of mass destruction.

All Born On Dec. 30

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.
Francis O'Keefe, 26, emphasised today he had no plans for 1954.
O'Keefe's wife, Janice, 25, gave birth to their third daughter on December 30. Their second daughter Barbara was born on December 30, 1952.
Their first daughter, Nancy, was born on December 30, 1951.
"Next year? No Sir," said O'Keefe. "I'm not trying to set any more records."
He admitted, however, that he had hoped for a son this time. — United Press.

GOOD REASON!

Camden, N. J.
Sixty-nine-year-old Saboteur when asked at a naturalisation ceremony why he had waited 40 years to become an American citizen, he replied: "I've been too busy raising a family of 12 children."
Scola is a native of Italy. — United Press.

In answer to questions submitted him by the International News Service, Tass quoted Malenkov as saying: "With all my heart I wish the American people happiness and a peaceful life. I wish the American people success in developing friendly relations with other nations and fruitful results in the matter of safeguarding peace against all attempts to infringe against it."
Tass reported that Malenkov said the most important step toward world peace in 1954 would be an agreement between states "not to use atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction."

BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP
Observers noted that Malenkov did not mention President Eisenhower's proposal that the world pool some of their nuclear resources under the United Nations for peaceful purposes. But they believed that Malenkov's renewal of a demand for prohibition of nuclear weapons was an attempt to offset Mr. Eisenhower's statement.

Malenkov said he hoped that the New Year would bring "consolidation of the traditional bonds of friendship between the peoples of our countries."
To the question: How do you evaluate the possibilities of maintaining world peace and lessening international tension in 1954, he said: "All peoples are eager for lasting peace. There are favourable opportunities to further weaken the international tension in 1954. Governments, primarily those of the great powers, cannot fail to heed the voice of peoples and to reckon with the growing desire for lasting peace urged by the Soviet Government, which has done, is doing and shall continue to do everything towards enabling people to live in peace, towards relaxing international tension, towards establishing normal relations between states."

STALIN'S TECHNIQUE
In answering the questions, Malenkov employed the technique frequently used by the late Josef Stalin to indicate the Kremlin's position on world problems. Stalin answered a series of questions last Christmas which were submitted by James Reston of the New York Times.
Stalin said in answer to the Times' questions that he would favourably regard diplomatic talks with representatives of the then new Eisenhower administration. He said such talks between himself and Mr. Eisenhower should have the objective of easing world tensions.
Mr. Eisenhower later offered to meet Stalin in the interests of world peace, but the meeting never occurred. — United Press.

"SEND FILIPINO TECHNICIANS TO HONGKONG"

Manila, Jan. 1.
The head of the Philippine commercial delegation which recently visited the 11th Exhibition of Hongkong products, Mr. B. B. Medrano, yesterday urged that Philippine technicians be sent to Hongkong to study industrial trends there.
Mr. Medrano, who returned to Manila on Wednesday from Hongkong, said that the Colony's industries had reached a fairly advanced stage of development and that Hongkong products can compete with Japan's. — Franco-Press.

Trick Test Proved Fatal

Nevada City, California, Jan. 1.
An amateur play director accidentally hanged himself while testing a trick knot to be used in a scene for a civil war play.

The victim was Richard B. Loozer, 34, a real estate man and amateur theatre group director and actor. He was found hanged in his apartment from a rope loosely tied to a pipe jutting from the ceiling.
How was partially dressed in costume. A mirror was situated nearby so the could study the effect of the rope.
Deputy Coroner Shirley Brattin said that Loozer had signed

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Oh, didn't I tell you? I made several New Year's resolutions, and one of 'em was never to return or exchange Christmas gifts!"

Hemingway Ran Counter-Spy Ring In Cuba In 1942

New York, Jan. 1.
Novelist Ernest Hemingway ran an underground "crime shop" in Cuba during World War II to help American agents track down saboteurs and spies aiding the enemy sink Allied shipping in the Caribbean Sea, it was disclosed.

Spruille Braden, former Assistant Secretary of State, said when he was Ambassador to Cuba in 1942, he arranged with Hemingway to establish this counter-spy apparatus.
Braden, testifying before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, said that there was a dangerous situation in Cuba during the war. About three Allied ships were being sunk every day by enemy submarines and FBI agents were sent to Cuba to try to find out how shipping information was reaching the Germans.

The FBI had trouble finding enough Spanish-speaking agents, Braden said, so Hemingway agreed to round up an underground organization and it included aristocrats, monarchists, priests, bartenders and wharf rats.

The apparatus was headed, Braden said, by Gustavo Duran, an international mystery man and Hemingway's "inspiration" for the hero of "For Whom The Bell Tolls." — United Press.

Outstanding Artists Of 1953 Named

New York, Jan. 1.
The National Arts Foundation of New York has named the French Painter Henri Matisse, the British Composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, Andre Malraux, author of "The Voice of Silence," a survey of man's artistic heritage, and the Welsh Poet, the late Dylan Thomas "outstanding artists of 1953." Dr. Carleton Smith, head of the organization, announced today. — United Press.

LYTTELTON'S MESSAGE

London, Dec. 31.
The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, in a New Year message to the Colonies, said today the British Government will not allow a Communist state to be organised within the Commonwealth.

In a broadcast on the BBC, Mr. Lyttelton said in countries where communities of different races lived side by side neither prosperity nor security could be obtained for one race alone at the expense of the others.
He said there was no conflict of true interests between Britain and her colonies.

"Steady progress was recorded in the year just ending, in every field but during the past year our common cause has, here and there, been hampered and set back by additional man-made problems, Mr. Lyttelton added. — Franco-Press.

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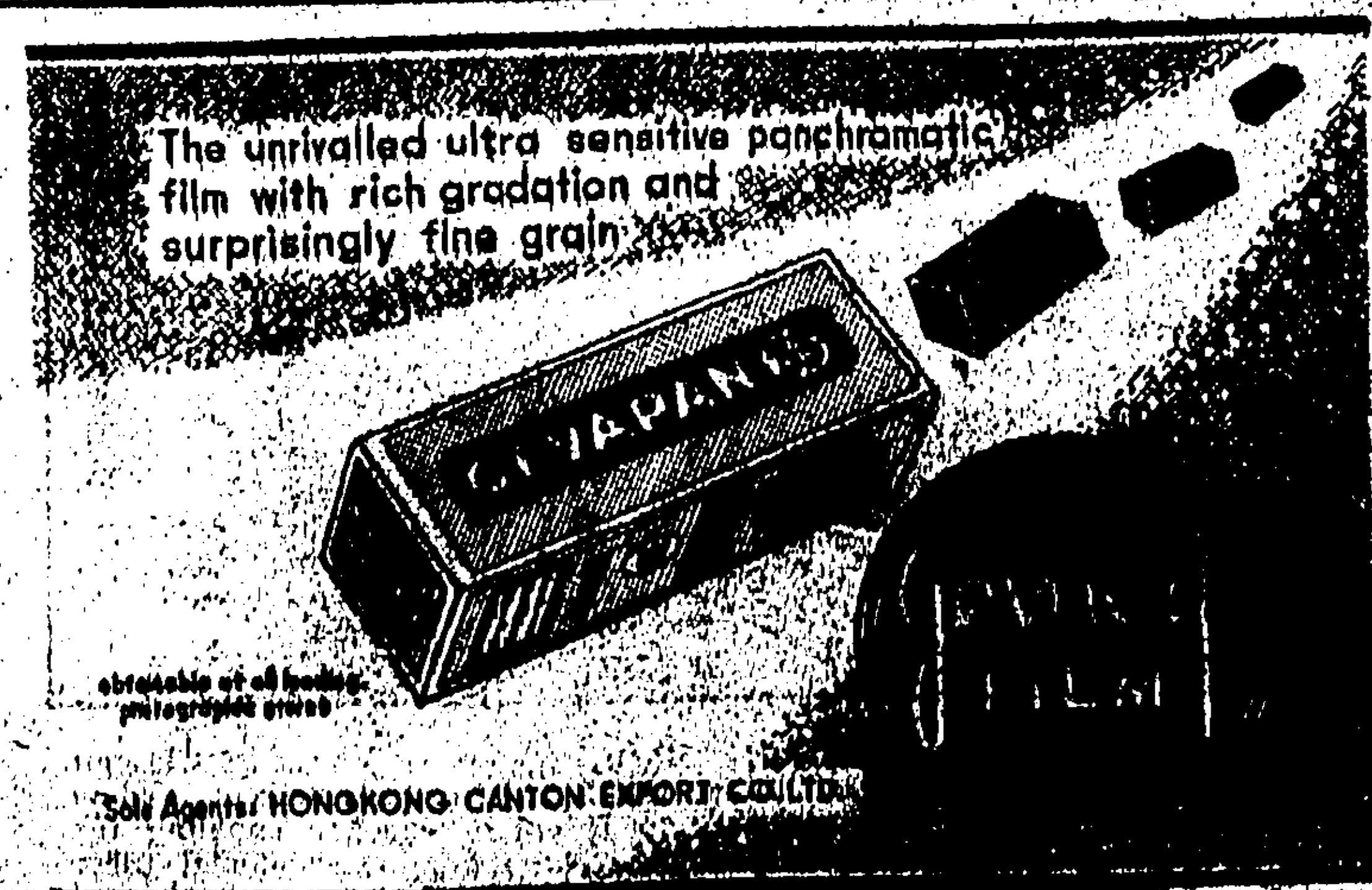
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HOMESIDE PICTORIAL



AT the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies ball at the Savoy Hotel, London. Eighteen-year-old Jane Gooch, former Sunshine Home girl, presents a box of Christmas crackers to Princess Marie Louise (left). Later in the evening, at the Princess's request, red-cassocked choirboys formed a half-circle round her chair to sing carols. (Express)



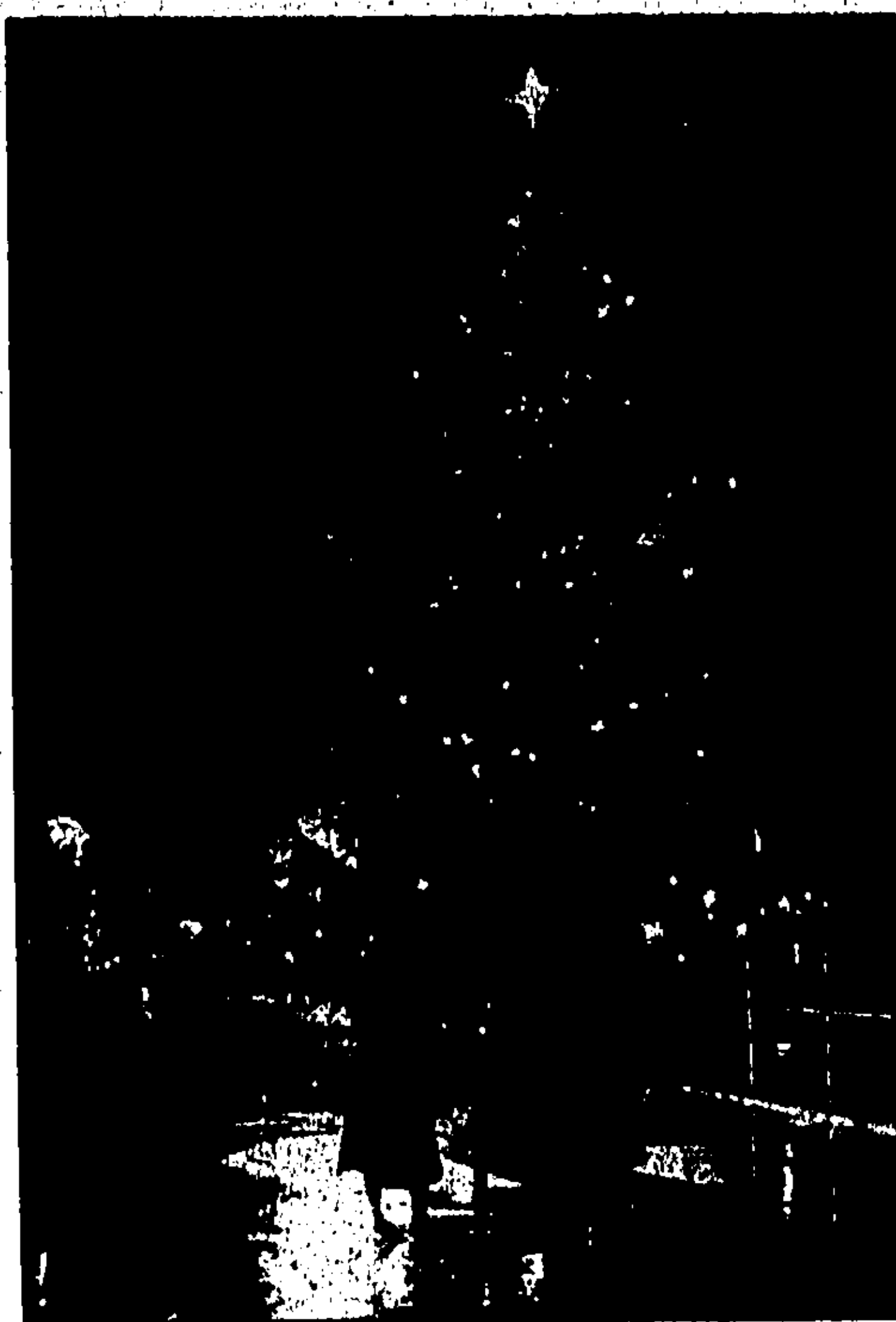
CHATTING together are Sheikh Haliz Wahba, the Saudi-Arabian Ambassador in London (left), and Lord Freyberg, New Zealand war hero, at the Arabian Nights Ball held at the Dorchester in London. More than 800 people attended the ball. (Express)



AFTER a robbery at Pinewood Studios by a gelignite gang, some of the Arthur Rank stars took a hand at trying to solve the crime. Here they are at work: Nigel Patrick, Kenneth More, Dirk Bogarde, Donald Sinden, Jack Warner (who was a policeman in "The Blue Lamp") Donald Houston, Elizabeth Sellars, Glynis Johns and Terence Morgan. (Express)



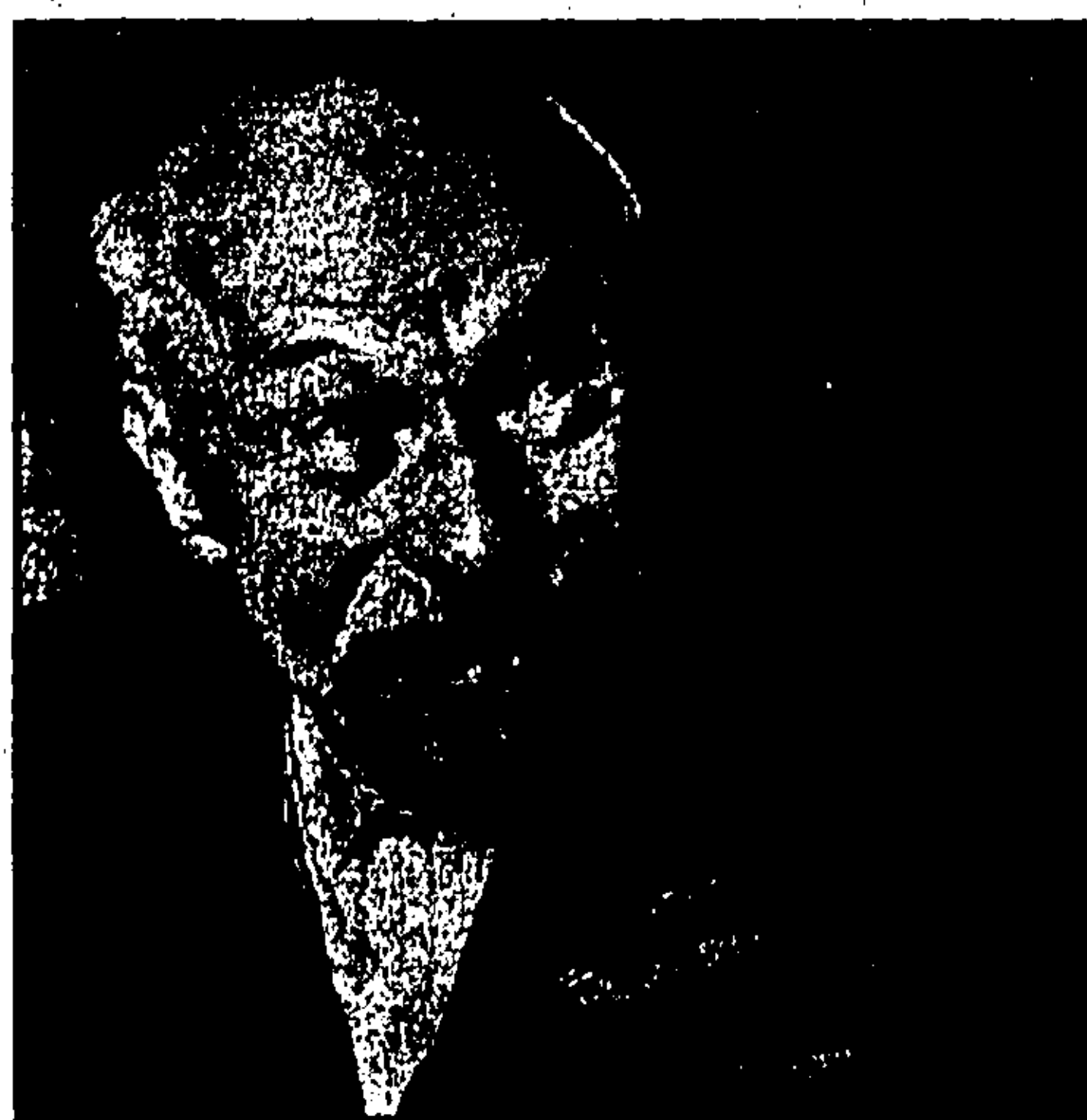
IN the British military hospital in Kure, Japan, Pte James Savage of Glasgow received the 20,000th parcel sent out under the NAAFI parcels scheme, and to mark the occasion NAAFI had enclosed an Interflora voucher enabling the recipient to send a bouquet to the donors. These were the Colonial Office telephone girls, who are seen receiving the flowers.



THE 25-feet high Christmas tree, presented by the Queen, illuminated outside Westminster Abbey, with the window over the West Door lit up from the inside. This and other trees along the north side formed the final part of the Abbey Fund campaign. (Central)



EX-KING Peter of Yugoslavia, now 30, pictured in London just before flying to Switzerland to see his son. His trip gave rise to speculation about a reconciliation with his wife, ex-Queen Alexandra, but he denied the reports. (Express)



HERE is Mr David Taylor, of Sussex, who has just celebrated his 100th birthday. He is still spry, his mind is clear and his speech lucid. He began working on a farm at the age of 11, and served 50 years on the railways.



HERE is one of the turns seen at the special children's matinee given by the Bertram Mills Circus at Olympia. The showgirl lies unperturbed as the elephant places a huge foot on her. (Express)



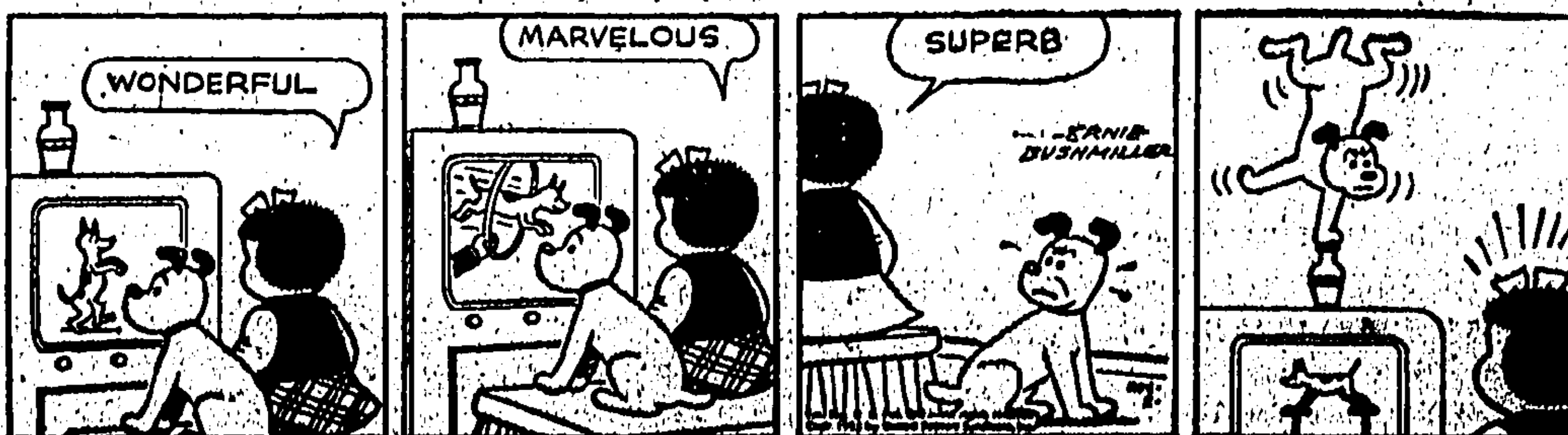
NORMAN WISDOM, the 38-year-old slapstick comedian who has proved that he can be as funny on the films as he is on British television, went to see Baron, the photographer, the other day. Here Baron (right) tries to get a close-up as Norman poses on the floor in his stage attire of a tight little grey suit and cloth cap. (Express)



WHEN the Ministry of Works undertook repairs in the Byward Tower, at the Tower of London, they discovered a 14th century mural showing a version of "The Last Judgment." It is painted with superb workmanship and the colours are still bright. Picture shows Yeoman Gaoler Alfred Barber studying the mural. (Express)

NANCY It That Good?

By Ernie Bushmiller



BLACK
MAGIC
PLAIN
CHOCOLATES



"Let's not tell 'em the strike's off—and anyway we nobbled the horse..."

London Express Service

WHEN MENUHIN IS 87

—that will be 50 years from now

By Neville Duke
THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS TEST PILOT

LET US FORGET THE DREAM TRIPS
TO THE MOON—AND LOOK INSTEAD
AT THE BIG PROBLEMS WE FACE NOW

SO Yehudi Menuhin is grounding himself. He greets the 50th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' historic flight by giving up flying. The astonishing half-century that has transformed their flimsy and graceless craft into the sleek and sure-winged Comet is not enough to still his misgivings.

Useless, then, for me to offer reassurance with facts and figures, even though these demonstrate that a man is as safe in an aeroplane as in many a city street.

Instead, let me describe to Mr Menuhin and those who share his doubts the progress they may expect in the 50 years ahead.

One thing I can say at once with conviction: In each of these 50 years, flying will become safer and safer still.

Here is the pattern of progress as I see it. And I want to stress that it is no pilot's pipe-dream.

What I am outlining is the course that development may reasonably be expected to take, based on knowledge already in the possession of flying experts with their feet on the ground.

But of course nobody can, with 100 percent accuracy, forecast the trend of future air development.

★ ★ ★

1953 to 1963: In the next decade, I think airlines will fly not much faster than the Comet of today.

But the Big Four airliner-makers (Vickers, Avro, Handley-Page and de Havilland) should be developing models capable of about 575 miles an hour at 40,000 feet.

This is on the fringe of the sound barrier, and to push further would be too costly to be worth while commercially.

★ ★ ★

1963 to 1973: This will be the decade in which the jet consolidates.

Speeds will barely exceed those of the new-type Comets, but comfort and reliability will be the things that count.

Safety? Yes, but by then it will be a perfectionist's polish.

1973 to 1983: A dramatic decade, in my opinion. The dawn of an entirely new period for passengers.

Atomic-powered airliners are what I am thinking of. Their shape will be radically different, to suit the vast power increases, and their size too will be much greater.

These airliners will fly at what now seem astonishing speeds—1,000 miles an hour or even faster.

★ ★ ★

1983 to 1993: The turn of atomic planes to consolidate. Planes as vast and as complex as I have hinted will need to be down and operated for 20 years or more to recoup their operators for their cost.

There will be strides, however, in military flying.

★ ★ ★

1993 to 2003: By now, the jets will have been relegated to internal routes of about 300-400 miles. They will be flying what the tube is to railways.

The long-distance flights will be made by rocket-liner. Speed, comfort, and safety will all be of a standard hardly imaginable now.

But what may impress the passenger as much as any of this will be the enormous improvement to be expected in convenience.

For, during the next 50 years, the Trip To The Airports—that despair of the air traveller—will be eliminated. That exasperating coach ride through the suburbs, sometimes a longer business than the flight itself, cannot possibly be tolerated.

The first step will be to swap the coach for the helicopter. We shall probably see this within the next decade.

But I think the helicopter will be short-lived. The whirly-bird is an ungainly form of flight, and better ways of taking-off vertically will be developed.

A spur to such development will be the shortage of airfield space. Britain is already reaching the point where she can ill afford to turn over any more space to runways.

GOING DOWN

In the immediate future I expect a temporary solution. To avoid the longer runways, airfields may be equipped with a sort of "rubber deck" device similar to that on an aircraft-carrier.

The deck would be a flexible metal sheet suspended off the ground, and the plane would be pulled up short with a hook device.

Remember that it is only 14 years since the Heinkel 178, powered by an HeS2 gas turbine, made the world's first jet flight. So, of course, there is ample time for remarkable development of the jet's possibilities.

Eventually, the landing of a jet will go something like this: As the plane comes in the jet will change its direction of thrust, and almost hovering, the plane will lower itself into its vertical garage below ground.

There it will settle on a cradle, ready to take off again as soon as it is reloaded.

By A.D. 2003, then, I visualise aircraft landing vertically at air stations in all the big towns.

Many of these stations may well be converted main-line railway stations. But instead of engine sheds above ground there will be hangars below the surface, to cut down the take-off noise of the jets.

Today, the din of the Comet taking off is not heard by passengers aboard. But friends on the ground waving a send-off get the full effect.

The passengers' cabin is a separate unit, heavily insulated from the outer shell (which will get hot with friction as it surges through the air).

It is pressurised, heat-controlled, air-conditioned, and mounted gyroscopically, so that it automatically keeps you level throughout the curving flight.

The hostess sees that you are properly settled in your berth, and lying flat on your back to sustain the force of the acceleration.

The loudspeaker warns you that the rocket is about to take off, and tells you not to try to raise your head. The charge is fired and you are hurtling up into space.

You feel yourself pressed back against your couch. Your limbs are leaden. But there is nothing to worry about. You are experiencing a force of 3G, which means that your body is three times heavier than usual.

AT A TOUCH
IN less than a minute the acceleration is over, and you touch a button that converts your couch back into an arm-chair.

On the last stage of the trip wings will sprout from the rocket's body and slowing gradually, the pilot will fly in to land.

That is, if there is a pilot on board, for the rockets will soon be controlled by radio from the ground, as jets will already be.

In less than a minute it now takes to go to Brighton by rail from London you will be in Australia, with a full day to spend with your emigrant relatives before returning home the same night.

Similarly with the rockets of A.D. 2003, the noise, and the flames, and the smoke will not bother the passengers. But the more alarming effects of the firing will have to be screened from the onlookers, or else there will be a batch of potential passengers scared away at every take-off.

This point will count all the more because in A.D. 2003, I think, rocket travel will still be something of a novelty. Besides, even as the rocket emerges above ground it passage through the air will cause substantial disturbance. So I am inclined to think that rocketliners will, in their early years, leave stations well clear of the towns.

DAY TRIP

I IMAGINE that London's rocketport will have to be somewhere in the middle of Salisbury Plain.

This is an impression of what your day excursion to Australia will be like. You buy your ticket in the outer office of your local air station and pass through into a reception cabin.

The whole cabin, powered by jets under the floor, rises straight into the air. Then the jets swivel sideways and propel it to the rocketport.

Meanwhile, Customs and passport formalities are being completed.

The rocketliner looks like a dart, or a long, slim, sharpened pencil with tail vanes. There are wings, but you do not see them, because when you go on board they are retracted into the body.

The passengers' cabin is a separate unit, heavily insulated

GAMBLERS ARE MUGS!

By LES ARMOUR

London. AMERICA'S Harvard and Johns Hopkins Universities have been doing some research into pin tables—to find out why gamblers are mugs.

The result—for us gamblers—is discouraging.

Psychologist Ward Edwards (a Johns Hopkins man and one of the top researchers in the United States) has decided that there's just no hope for us.

One U.S. experiment enlisted mathematicians, university professors and an array of brainy people who know how to figure out the odds. Another surveyed ordinary citizens.

Both groups "showed a marked preference for long odds and a dislike for short ones," with lower than 5 to 1 against most of them became just plain "disinterested."

To find out why, Dr. Edwards set up an experiment of his own.

He got a Harvard man to design a loaded pin table. The "subjects" rolled balls down it through a series of electrical barriers into eight holes at the bottom. They were told the chances that the ball would roll into any one hole were as good as the chances it would roll into any other.

The chances WERE equal—because the barriers were electronically controlled from an adjoining room and the control was set so that the balls would fall in certain sequences.

The "subjects"—12 Harvard undergrads—were then offered bets on various combinations of results. The bets were for real money, (though each received pay for his effort) and gambling continued after the official experiment until the professors arranged surreptitiously for each to come out even.

To ensure some kind of cross-section, the students were chosen from every social class and income group.

The experiment went on long enough (several days) for each of them to "learn" the best way of heading the table. Since Harvard students are said to be brighter than most people,

it can be assumed that they learned just as readily as most of us would.

What happened?

They were mugs from start to finish. They showed the previous noted preference for long odds and (strangely enough) a particular liking for 4/8 combinations (four chances of winning, eight chances of losing) and a marked dislike for 0/8 combinations.

Why? Maybe it's because most of us don't like to take risks unless the reward looks fabulous. Anyhow, the surveys showed that we prefer to think "it's 'about time' for this after a thousand heads."

Furthermore, since most of us think gambling is a matter controlled by the gods, we think we SHOULD work on whims.

No matter how often mathematicians tell us the chances that a coin will come up heads or tails are always even, we always think "it's 'about time' for tails after a thousand heads."

FOOTNOTE: Who pays the bill for this research? One of the principal benefactors is the U.S. Navy. Maybe some admiral wants to cash in on a crap game.



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for an ill-fated Queen



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IN 1783, the great watchmaker Abraham Louis Breguet was commissioned to make the finest watch the world had ever seen, for his Queen, Marie Antoinette.

He worked nearly twenty years to complete this project. But long before he could finish, the beautiful Marie Antoinette had met her fate at the guillotine.

Such is the story of this labour of love for a gracious Queen, who was destined never to see its completion.

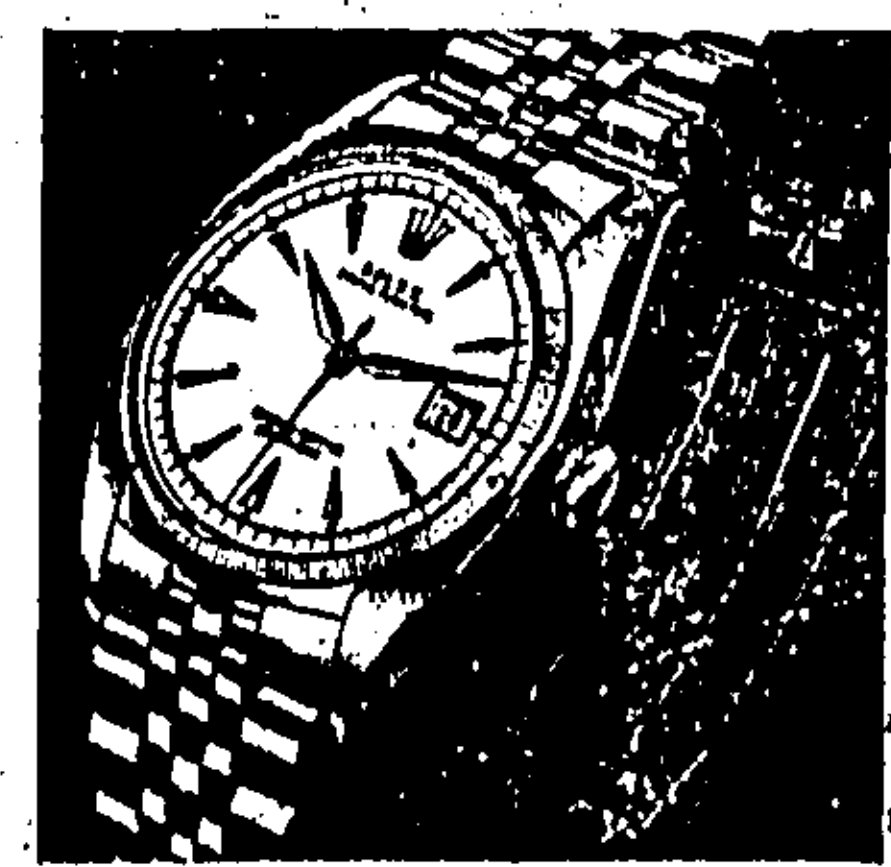
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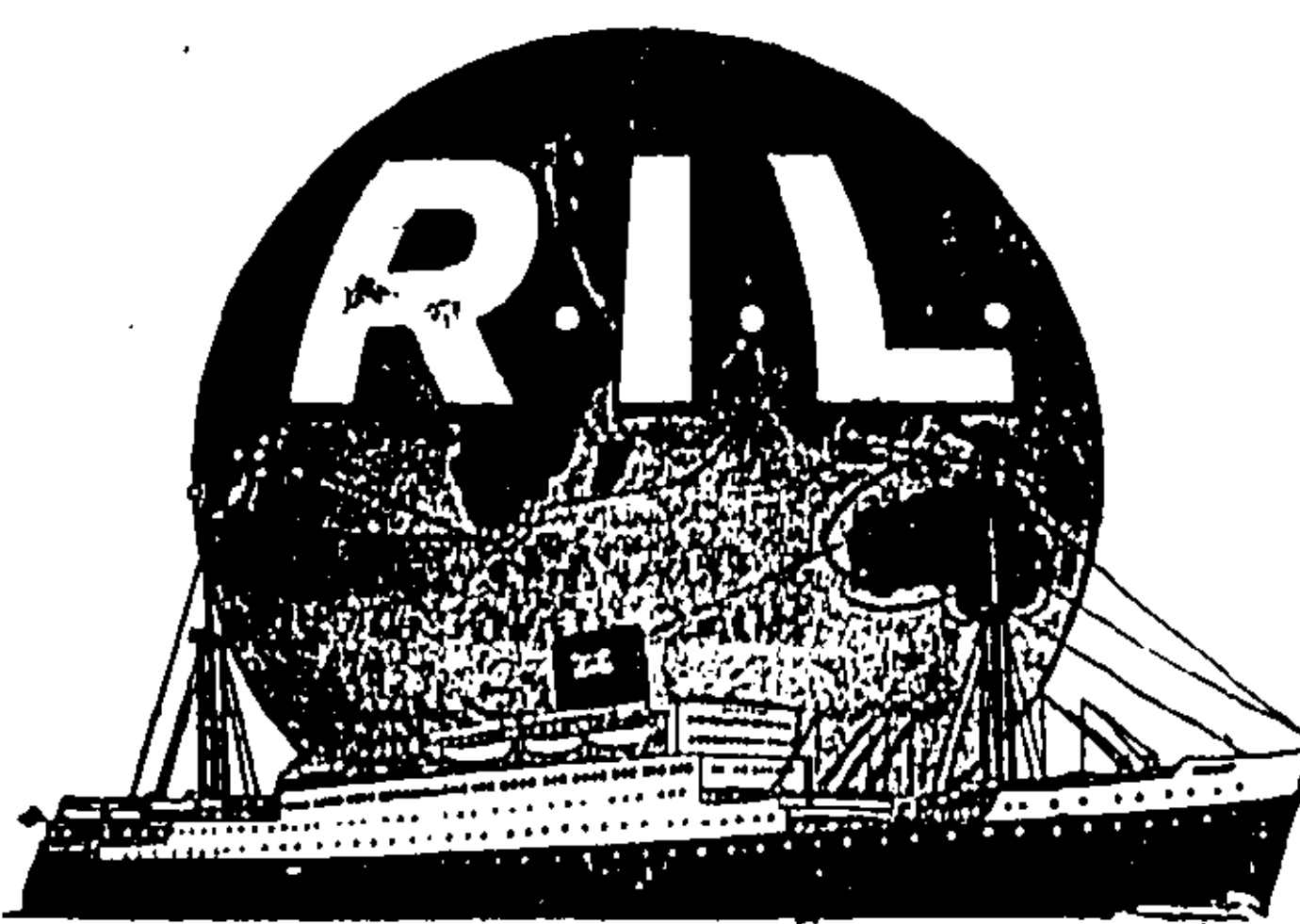
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Mr Jack Foster, editor of the *Daily Rocky Mountain News*, put a series of questions to Lord Beaverbrook on the subject: "Why do the British apparently support completely the effort of the Chinese Reds to gain admission to the United Nations?"

This lasting kinship

By
Lord Beaverbrook

YOU must put out of your mind completely any idea that the baiting of Americans is a popular sport in Britain.

It is not a sport in Britain at all, outside the lunatic fringe. In other words, it is on exactly the same footing as the baiting of Britain which goes on in the corresponding lunatic fringe in the United States.

If these two counter-balancing lunacies are dismissed from serious discussion—as they should be—this leaves us with the question of Britain's China policy.

OLD ENMITY

My newspapers have, in the past, criticised some aspects of this policy, so I would not be everybody's choice as the best qualified person to expound it.

But it is at least reasonable to think that the ancient and bitter enmity between China and Russia has not been magically and completely healed.

On that supposition it may be wiser to entice China out of Russia's arms, by soft words than to drive her more deeply into Russia's orbit by hostility.

But would not such a policy involve Britain in some forgetfulness of the British soldiers—let us say the Gloucestershire Regiment—who have fought and fallen in Korea?

The British have all the less reason to forget their losses against the Communists in Korea since they have been fighting single-handed for a much longer period against the same enemy in Malaya.

THOSE LOSSES

But are such losses, bitter and heartfelt as they are, to be regarded as the sole criterion of policy?

It does not seem an easy proposition to sustain. For think of where it would take us:

To unending hostility to the Japanese, whose prison-camp atrocities are not easily forgotten.

To enmity to the Zionists, who not only murdered British soldiers who were doing the behest of the League of Nations, but also stirred up American public feeling against them.

To hatred of the Germans, who killed maybe a hundred British soldiers for every one dead in Korea.

I adduce these examples simply to suggest that the events in Korea, which justify our indignation, are an inadequate basis for long-term policy.

'MISTAKEN'

It is not a question of "rewarding" the Chinese Reds and "forgetting" the British casualties (as Mr Foster suggested). It is a question of seeking to achieve a purpose of policy by acts of policy. It may be a mistaken course.

But, then, so also may be the policy of retaining hundreds of thousands of German boys who spent their childhood under the influence of Hitler and Goebbels. And only time will show which of these two policies is wise.

I do not know whether these answers of mine are of interest to you. They are, believe me, given with as much earnestness as you devoted to settling the questions. And they reach you from one whose attachment to the kinship between Britain and the United States is equal to your own.

How Audrey has upset the Hollywood form... THE GOLDEN GIRL

—CHAPTER 2



By Logan Gourlay

But now that she knows what to expect, her emotional equilibrium should not be disturbed.

★ ★ ★

She has been properly engaged once, without the plotting, or prompting of the publicists and the American columnists.

Her fiancé was James Hanson, son of a wealthy Huddersfield business man, who was compensated handsomely for the loss of his road haulage company under nationalisation.

Engaged

TALL, handsome, charming, and eligible James, who hauled himself frequently from Huddersfield to London, was at one time an escort of Jean Simmons.

He met Audrey while she was still an ambitious chorus girl in London. But for her unexpected transformation to star she might have been young Mrs. Hanson, installed in a Yorkshire manor, her ambitions tucked neatly under an apron.

They were engaged in December 1951, just after she opened on the Broadway stage, in *Gigi*—the beginning of the transformation. It continued with *Roman Holiday*; and the plans for a wedding in Huddersfield were postponed until completion of the film in September 1952.

Two hundred guests were invited and all the preparations made. But the film—as films too often do—ran over schedule.

★ ★ ★

When the bride-to-be was finally released from the cameras she had to rush straight to America to start a road tour of *Gigi*. The Huddersfield wedding was cancelled hurriedly and arrangements made for it to take place in America. A patient Mr. Hanson flew out. Within a few weeks he was back, still a bachelor.

On December 15, 1952, an announcement said: "The engagement between Mr. James Hanson and Miss Audrey Hepburn has been broken."

There had been no violent quarrel or rift. Shortly after, she explained to me: "It occurred to me when the *Gigi* tour started and we were trying to arrange the wedding that it was difficult to find time for the actual ceremony what would it be like later on?"

"I decided it would be unfair to Jimmy to marry him when I was also in love with, and tied to, my work. He agreed."

"I apologise for using one of these awful stock phrases—but we're still very good friends." Her apologies were accepted.

Discovered

THE only other recorded romance in the life of Audrey Hepburn was with a young Frenchman, Marcel Le Bon. They were in a London show together. He was the singer; she was one of the dancers. They saw a great deal of each other, and then drifted apart in true backstage tradition. They probably didn't affect each other's lives very much and their relationship is not important, but since *Pigouante*, the show which brought them together, is

It was presented by impresario Cecil Landeau, who was among the first to notice that Audrey Hepburn had unusual potentialities.

He was unaware of her existence until he went to the London Hippodrome to see *High Button Shoes*, the American musical, in which she made her first professional appearance. She had just arrived in England from Holland, where she had spent the hard years from 1940-48.

Landeau told me: "The first impression was made by a pair of big dark eyes and a fringe flitting across the stage."

"I made inquiries after the show and found out they belonged to Audrey Hepburn."

"I noted the name and when the show closed I offered her a job in a new revue I was presenting, *Sauce Tartare*.

Diviner

"SHE hadn't much to do, but she did it well. So I signed her for my next revue, *Sauce Piquante*, and gave her a little more prominence."

She was still, however, little more than a featured dancer. But Landeau, who gave Norman Wisdom his first West End part, is an accurate diviner of talent.

He told Audrey Hepburn she would reach stardom as a straight actress, not as a dancer. She laughed at him, but he did what he could to prepare her for the future.

Her voice was then, too high and squeaky. He sent her to a coach, who lowered it several tones. Landeau next taught her how to project the new voice by

sitting in the empty theatre after the show while she declaimed Shakespeare from the stage. But for this training she might have failed when she was catapulted into the leading role in *Gigi*.

In contract

WHILE *Sauce Piquante* was still running, Landeau presented a polished version of the show in cabaret in a London night-club. One of the club owners saw Audrey rehearsing and said: "Can't think what you see in that girl. You should drop her."

He changed his mind when he discovered that the girl had a presence which made even blasé waiters forget to wait.

About this time Landeau added a clause to her contract forbidding her to marry during the run of the show. She accepted it regarding it as something of a joke.

But that was the betrothal to be followed by the marriage between Audrey Hepburn and career which is now so conspicuously successful.

It may not always be quite so successful, felicitous, and charming—though there is no possibility of divorce.

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CHAPTER 40 OF "TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY"

THE FINAL CONFERENCE SETTLED NOTHING

FRUSTRATION was the fate of this final Conference of "the Three." I have not attempted to describe all the questions which were raised, though not settled, at our various meetings. I content myself with telling the tale, so far as I was then aware of it, of the atomic bomb and outlining the terrible issue of the German-Polish frontiers. These events dwell with us today.

It remains for me only to mention some of the social and personal contacts which relieved our sombre debates. Each of the three great delegations entertained the other two. First was the United States.

When it came to my turn I proposed the toast of "The League of the Opposition," adding "whoever he may be." Mr. Attlee, and indeed the company, were much amused by this. The Soviet dinner was equally agreeable, and a very fine concert, at which leading Russian artists performed, carried the proceedings on late that I stayed away.

I led me to give the final banquet on the night of July 23. I planned this on a larger scale, inviting the chief commanders as well as the delegates. I placed the President on my right and Stalin on my left. There were many speeches, and Stalin, without even ensuring that all the waiters and orderlies had left the room, proposed that our next meeting should be in Tokyo.

THERE was no doubt that the Russian declaration of war upon Japan would come at any moment, and already their large armies were massed upon the frontier ready to overrun the much weaker Japanese front line in Manchuria. To lighten the proceedings we changed places from time to time, and the President sat opposite me.

I had another very friendly talk with Stalin, who was in this best of tempers and seemed to have no inkling of the momentous information about the new bomb the President had given me. He spoke with enthusiasm about the Russian intervention against Japan, and seemed to expect a good many months of war, which Russia would wage on an ever-increasing scale, governed only by the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Then a very odd thing happened. My formidable guests got up from their seats with the bill-of-fare card in his hand and went round the table collecting the signatures of many of those who were present. I never thought to see him as an autograph hunter! When he came back to me I wrote my name as he desired, and we both looked at each other and laughed. Stalin's eyes twinkled with mirth and good-humour.

I have mentioned before how the toasts at the banquets were always drunk by the Soviet representatives out of tiny glasses, and Stalin had never varied from this practice. But now I thought I would take

him on a step. So I filled a small-sized claret glass with brandy for him and another for myself. I looked at him significantly. We both drained our glasses at a stroke and raised appreciatively at one another.

After a pause Stalin said: "If you find it impossible to give us a fortified position in the Marmora, could we not have a base at Dedagatch?" I contented myself with saying: "I will always support Russia in her claim to the freedom of the seas all the year round."

NEXT day, July 24, after our plenary meeting had ended and we all got up from the round table and stood about in twos and threes before dispersing, I saw the President go up to Stalin, and the two conversed alone with only their interpreters. I was perhaps five yards away, and I watched with the closest attention the momentous talk.

I knew what the President was going to do. What was vital to measure was its effect on Stalin. I can see it all as if it were yesterday. He seemed to be delighted. A new and of extraordinary power. Probably decisive on the whole Japanese war! What a bit of luck!

This was my impression at the moment, and I was sure that he had no idea of the significance of what he was being told. Evidently in his intense talks and stresses the atomic bomb had played no part. If he had had the slightest idea of the revolution in world affairs which was in progress his reactions would have been obvious.

Nothing would have been easier than for him to say, "Thank you so much for telling me about your new bomb. I of course have no technical knowledge. May I send my expert in these nuclear sciences to see your expert tomorrow morning?" But his face remained gay and genial and the talk between the two potentates soon came to an end.

As we were waiting for our cars I found myself near Truman. "How did it go?" I asked. "He replied, 'I was certain therefore that at that date Stalin had no special knowledge of the vast process of research upon which the United States and Britain had been engaged for so long, and of the production for which the United States had spent over £400 million in this heroic gamble.'

This was the end of the story so far as the Potsdam Conference was concerned. No further reference to the matter was made by or to the Soviet delegation.

ON the morning of July 25 the Conference met again. This was the last meeting I attended. I urged once more that Poland's western frontier could not be settled without taking into account the 1½ million Germans who were still in the area, and the President emphasised that any Peace Treaty could only be ratified with the consent of the Senate. We must, he said, find a solution which he could honestly re-

At the Prime Minister's invitation Mr Attlee, by now in Opposition, accompanied him to the Potsdam Conference as "a friend and counsellor." The results of the General Election had still to be declared, and, to avoid embarrassment, the political members of the British delegation left the Conference on July 25, 1945, to await the poll in England.

commend to the American people.

I said that if the Poles were allowed to assume the position of a fifth occupying Power without arrangement being made for spreading the load produced in Germany equally over the whole German population, and without our agreeing about reparations or war booty, the Conference would have failed. This network of problems lay at the very heart of our work, and so far we had come to no agreement.

THE wrangle went on. Stalin said that getting coal and metal from the Ruhr was more important than food. I said they would have to be bartered again for supplies from the East. How else could the miners win coal?

"They have imported food from abroad before, and can do so again," was the answer. And how could they pay reparations? There is still a good deal of fat left in Germany," was the grim reply.

I refused to accept starvation in the Ruhr because the Poles held all the grain-lands in the East. Britain herself was short of coal. "Then use German prisoners in the mines, that is what I am doing," said Stalin. "There are 40,000 German troops still in Norway, and you can get them from there."

"We are exporting our own coal," I said, "to France, Holland, and Belgium. Why should the Poles sell coal to Sweden while Britain is denying herself for the liberated countries?" But that is Russian coal," Stalin answered. "Our position is even more difficult than yours. We lost over five million men in the war, and we are desperately short of labour."

I put my point once again. "We will send coal from the Ruhr to Poland or anywhere else providing we get in exchange food for the miners who produce it." This seemed to make Stalin pause. He said the whole problem needed consideration. I agreed, and said I only wanted to point out the difficulties in front of us. Here, so far as I am concerned, was the end of the matter.

I TAKE no responsibility beyond what is here set forth for any of the conclusions reached at Potsdam. During the course of the Conference I allowed differences that could not be adjusted either round the table or by the Foreign Ministers at their daily meetings to stand over. A formidable body

of questions on which there was disagreement was in consequence piled upon the shelves.

I intended, if I were returned by the electorate, as was generally expected, to come to grips with the Soviet Government on the catalogue of decisions. For instance, neither I nor Mr Eden would ever have agreed to the Western Neisse being the frontier line.

The line of the Oder and the Eastern Neisse had already been recognised as the Polish compensation for giving to the Curia Line, but the overrunning by the Russian armies of the territory up to and even beyond the Western Neisse was not agreed to by any Government, which I was the head. Here was no point of principle only, but rather an enormous matter of fact affecting about three additional millions of displaced people.

There were many other matters on which it was right to confront the Soviet Government, and also the Poles, who gulping down immense chunks of German territory, had obviously become their ardent puppets. All this negotiation was cut in twain and brought to an untimely conclusion by the result of the General Election.

TO say this is not to blame the Ministers of the new Government, who were forced to go over without any serious preparation, and who naturally were unacquainted with the ideas and plans I had in view, namely, to have a "showdown" at the end of the Conference, and if necessary, to have a public break rather than allow anything beyond the Oder and the Eastern Neisse to be ceded to Poland.

However, the real time to deal with these issues was, as has been explained in earlier chapters, when the fronts of the mighty Allies faced each other in the field, and before the Americans, and to a lesser extent the British, made their vast retirement on 400-mile front to a depth in some places of 120 miles, thus giving the heart and a great mass of German power to the Russians. At that time I desired to have the matter settled before we had made this tremendous retirement and while the Allied armies were still in being.

The American view was that we were committed to a definite line of occupation, and held strongly that this line of occupation could only be taken up when we were satisfied that the whole front, from north to south, was being settled in accordance with the desires and spirit in which our engagements had been made.

However, it was impossible to gather American support for this, and the Russians, pushing the Poles in front of them, set on driving the Germans before them and depopulating large areas of Germany, whose food supplies they had seized, while chasing a mass of millions into the overcrowded British and American zones.

Even at Potsdam the matter might perhaps have been recovered, but the destruction of the British National Government and my removal from the scene at the time when I still had much influence and power rendered it impossible for satisfactory solutions to be reached. I flew home with Mrs. (the Prime Minister's youngest daughter, now Mrs. Somervell) on the afternoon of July 25. My wife met me at Northolt, and we all dined quietly together. Excellent arrangements had been made by Captain P. M. and the staff of the Map Room to present a continuous tale of election results as they came in the next day. The latest view of the Conservative Central Office was that we should retain a substantial majority.

I HAD not burdened myself in July with the subject while occupied with the grave business of the Conference. On the whole I accepted the view of the party managers, and went to bed in the belief that the British people would wish me to continue my work.

My hope was that it would be possible to reconstitute the National Coalition Government in the proportions of the new House of Commons. Thus slumber, however, just before dawn I woke suddenly with a sharp stab of almost physical pain. A hitherto subconscious conviction that we were beaten broke forth and dominated my mind.

All the pressure of great events, on and against which had mentally so long maintained my "flying speed," would cease and I should fall. The power to shape the future would be denied me. The knowledge and experience I had gathered, the authority and goodwill I had gained in so many countries, would vanish. I was disoriented at the prospect, and turned over at once to sleep again.

I DID not wake till nine o'clock and when I went into the Map Room the first results had begun to come in. They were, as I now expected, unfavourable. By noon it was clear that the Socialists would have a majority. At luncheon my wife said to me: "It may well be a blessing in disguise," I replied: "At the moment it seems quite effectively disguised."

In ordinary circumstances I should have felt free to take a few days to wind up the affairs of the Government in the usual manner. Constitutionally I could have awaited the meeting of Parliament in a few days' time, and taken my dismissal from the House of Commons. This would have enabled me to present before resignation the unconditional surrender of Japan to the nation.

The need for Britain being immediately represented with

proper authority at the Conference, where all the great issues we had discussed were now to come to a head, made all delay contrary to the public interest. Moreover, the verdict of the electorate had been so overwhelmingly expressed that I did not wish to remain even for an hour responsible for their affairs.

At four o'clock therefore, having asked for an audience, I drove to the Palace, tendered my resignation to the King, and advised his Majesty to send for Mr. Attlee.

I issued to the nation the following message, with which this account may close:

26 July, 1945.
The decision of the British people has been recorded in the votes counted today. I have therefore laid down the charge which was placed upon me in darker times.

I regret that I have not been permitted to finish the work against Japan. For this, however, all plans and preparations have been made, and the results may come much quicker than we have hitherto been entitled to expect. Immense responsibilities abroad and at home fall upon the new Government, and we must all hope that they will be successful in bearing them.

It only remains for me to express to the British people, for whom I have acted in these perilous years, my profound gratitude for the unflinching, unwavering support which they have given me during my task, and for the many expressions of kindness which they have shown towards their servant.

THE END

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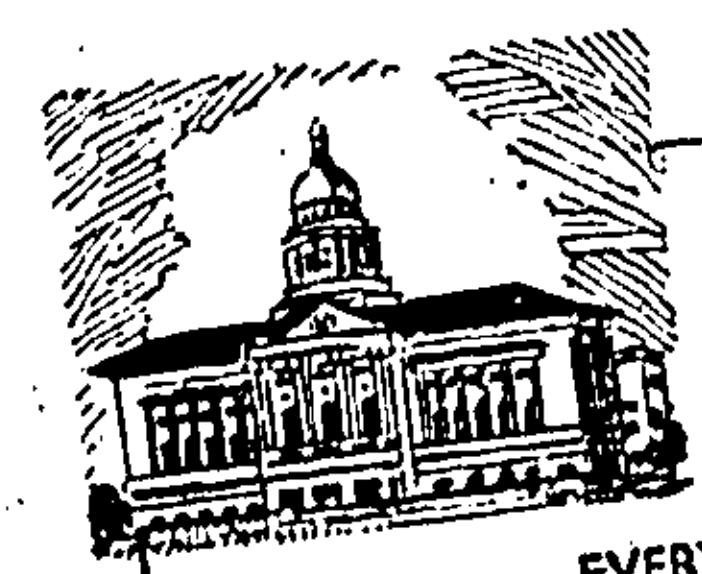
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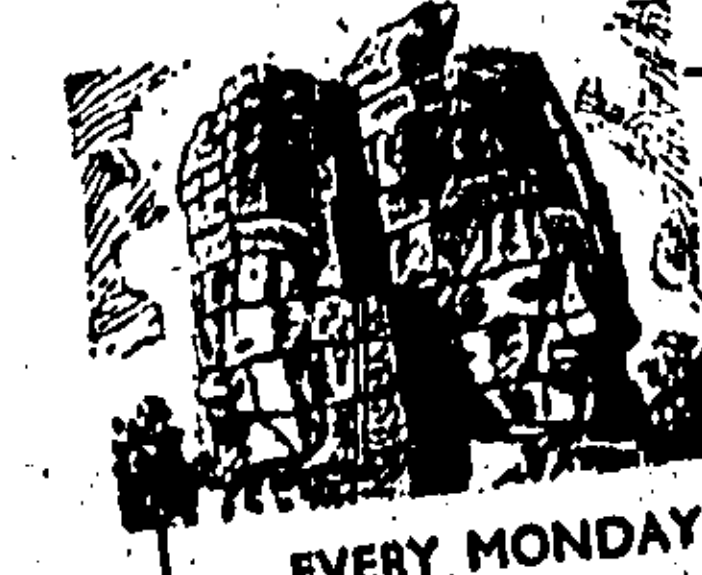


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THE TOM-TOMS BEAT OUT TROUBLE

From JACK COMBEN

THE tom-toms are throbbing deep in the Rio Branco region of the Brazilian jungle.

Unintelligible to the white man, their resonant notes betray the positions of government troops to Indian supporters of self-styled Communist dictator Captain Luis Carlos Prestes.

Prestes, together with an army of more than sixteen thousand men, is believed to be hiding in the dense, almost unexplored, area south of the British Guiana border.

But, despite the use of the paraphernalia of modern

war—observation planes, helicopters and radio—the government troops have not yet made contact.

Ever since the crisis in British Guiana, it has been rumoured that Russian-paid agents, working from Brazil, were stirring up trouble in the British colony.

And now a new danger has appeared.

Prestes' Indian supporters have started Mau Mau terror tactics in the jungle. They are brutally slaughtering any loyal Indians who refuse to join

forces with them. They fear that they may reveal their leader's position.

Prestes' men have been wooed by promises that when he becomes dictator of Latin America they will get better treatment than ever before. Also, they are being well paid with much needed goods, including salt, sewing needles, thread and knives.

The knives are wicked-looking weapons more than two feet long, with a razor-sharp edge which can sever a man's head with one sweep. One such knife, similar to the Mau Mau panga, was recently sent to Sao Paulo for examination. Markings on the blade showed that it was made in Poland.

To the white man, the jungle tributes of the Amazon appear as a vast ocean of

gigantic trees—a fearsome world where beast is stronger than man and nature holds sway.

But to the Indian tribes who live there, every gnarled tree trunk is a sign post. These Indians know the exact day to day movements of the Red army.

Brazilian officials estimate that at least three thousand of these aboriginal Indians are actively helping Prestes and his men. They are concerned for the safety of those who refuse to do so. Already more than twenty mutilated bodies have been found near the British-Brazilian border.

Troops have found the warm ashes of fires left by the Red Indians. But despite the use of Indian trackers, not one prisoner has been captured.

Army officers are fast coming to believe that to find Prestes in the jungle is a tougher problem than hunting for the proverbial needle in several haystacks.

So now they are employing new tactics. They argue that if they can cut his supply lines they will force him into the open.

Counter-Intelligence agents believe he is being supplied with money and arms from Russian submarines which are reported with growing frequency off Brazil's coast.

Accordingly, they have tripled their coastal guards. There is a day and night watch at all strategic points between Santos northwards to Belém, at the mouth of the Amazon.

But despite these precautions, Prestes and his ghostly army continue to elude the pursuit.



IT'S GOOD LOOKS BEFORE PROMOTION SO—

At work women say: 'After you, sir, please'

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

WOMEN who go to work do not just ahead a fast as men because they are hopelessly lacking in ambition. They are far more concerned about personal appearance than about wages or prospects of promotion.

A woman doctor found this out in a five-year survey for the Medical Research Council.

Dr. Norah Davis quizzed nearly 800 men and women about their work in 13 factories.

She asked them: What sort of job would you prefer for your children and why? Pleasant surroundings in which they could look their best were easily the biggest attraction in any job for the women.

They objected to protective clothing or anything else which detracted from their personal appearance.

And they complained strongly about work—no matter how well paid—in which their hair or clothing became tainted with the smell of chemicals.

Not one woman mentioned good wages as a special feature of the job she would choose for her children.

Only one in four wanted any promotion. And good prospects of promotion were important for only one in six.

But all the men put the chance of promotion as the chief attraction in any job.

—(London Express Service)

LEONARD MOSLEY applauds the best-yet Shakespeare film

Brando CAN talk!

And the 'Streetcar' man proves it in the most famous speech of them all

ONE of the pleasures you will discover from the film "Julius Caesar," opening here next week, is the fact that Marlon Brando can actually speak in plain English.

I saw a preview of the film—a fine, exciting and literate American version of Shakespeare's tragedy. And it turns out that Brando not only has the handsomest torso and most interesting male face in Hollywood. When he tries, you can also understand what he is saying.

You will remember Mr. Brando, no doubt, as the ape-like "lover of Vivien Leigh in the film "A Streetcar Named Desire." But do you remember anything he said on that occasion?

I thought not. In that contemporary epic his principal task was to exude manhood and seize the nearest available woman in his arms. His dialogue got smothered in the process, and sounded mostly like a variation between a grunt and a deep-drawn breath.

HERE'S FIRE

Most people thereafter suspected that Brando's vocal repertoire was confined to the more fundamental ranges of the monosyllable.

Not so. The magic quality of Shakespeare's verse has given Brando a tongue, and he uses it with fire and spirit and emotional effect.

This is the version by Joseph L. Mankiewicz (who made "All About Eve") of Shakespeare's story of a Roman Caesar who was killed by a mixed band of idealists because he showed signs of growing too big for his toga. The greatest of the idealists was Brutus.

Their murder of Caesar might have succeeded had it not been for the wit and cunning of his most virile henchman, Mark Antony. The Roman citizens approved of the execution. They cheered Brutus when he explained why he had dealt the fatal blow.

HERE'S BRILLIANCE

And then Mark Antony (in the person of Marlon Brando) walked into the pulpit, began his famous speech with the words, "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears," and demolished them and their cause. It is Shakespeare's most ironical and brilliant speech. Brando did not let him down in delivering it.

"Julius Caesar" is an exciting story, full of drama and dark intrigue. It makes a breath-taking film.

If Brando had been bad, it would have lost much of its emotional grip. He is not. Nor are the other players.

James Mason gives sincerity and attraction (if not quite enough sense of deep-felt vacillation) to his part of Brutus, the liberal who was drawn into murder; but never quite convinced himself of its ultimate necessity.

But the keystone of this tremendous tragedy is Cassius, the worried, neurotic architect—the man who really has murder in his heart. I doubt if this part has ever had such a

THE conversation was about health. Round the luncheon table were a medical board, as well as four representatives of commerce and the professions (two men, two women) and a housewife.

All five lead busy lives, often with irregular hours, and with only spasmodic opportunities for relaxation and recreation. What are their health problems, what are their chances of surviving to an active and healthy old age?

The grandmother

NOT the least active of them was also the oldest—Mrs JEAN MANN, a grandmother with five children, seven grandchildren.

For the last eight years she has been an MP, with all the strain which that entails. At 64, her relaxation—on the occasional Sundays when she manages to get home while Parliament is in session—is to cook the Sunday lunch for her husband and herself.

To get to her Glasgow home for those week-ends she must leave London by train at midnight on Friday, return by aero-

plane on Monday morning. She has few complaints about her health, but what are the effects of such furious expenditure of energy on a woman of her years?

Next to her was a personality equally well-known—KENNETH HORNE, star of TV and sound radio. Not so well known is the fact that this is essentially a spare-time occupation, for Kenneth Horne is known in commerce as the highly successful sales director of a big industrial concern.

He leaves home at 8.40 a.m., spends a full day in the office, or seeing customers in different parts of the country. He has to

★ SECOND WEEK ★

of the great health series

HOW TO LIVE TO BE 100

• TODAY the China Mail introduces the five men and women whose health problems in the coming week will be YOUR problems.

THE PANEL meet THE DOCTORS

... and the rules they learn will keep YOU fit, too



JEAN MANN
grandmother in politics.

confine his activities on the air to evenings and week-ends.

How does his health stand up to these demands? No complaints at all, says Kenneth Horne. But then he admits that, some time ago, he did suffer from pains and numbness down one side, though a doctor could find nothing wrong.

What about exercise? Well, he has had to give up squash, and only finds time for a round of golf once a month.

The housewife

NEXT, in age groups, come 37-year-old Mrs ANNE WILSON, housewife and mother of three children—two girls of 14 and 12, and a boy of three. Attractive and slim, she looks younger than her years.

Her relaxations are painting and, when the weather is fine, gardening. The only help she has is a woman twice a week. How does she preserve her youth and her serenity, in the face of the demands made by running a home, bringing up a growing family?

More important, how long will she be able to preserve them? How can she best ensure that her present good health continues?

The career man

ACROSS the table sat 31-year-old GRAHAM ROE, hard-working executive in a family business—an advertising agency. He has a background of an active, open-air life: rigger, tennis, and—during the war—a distinguished record in the Fleet Air Arm.

Since he gave up his outdoor activities Roe shows a tendency to put on weight. Sometimes he suspects that his digestion is going to need a little attention one of these days.

"I don't worry about it," Graham Roe told the doctors, "not much, anyway. There doesn't seem to be a lot I can do about it."

Mr Roe is typical of many young men of his age, eager to climb to the top as quickly as possible. He is prepared to do without the sports and relaxations he used to enjoy, to concentrate all his efforts on his career.

The career girl

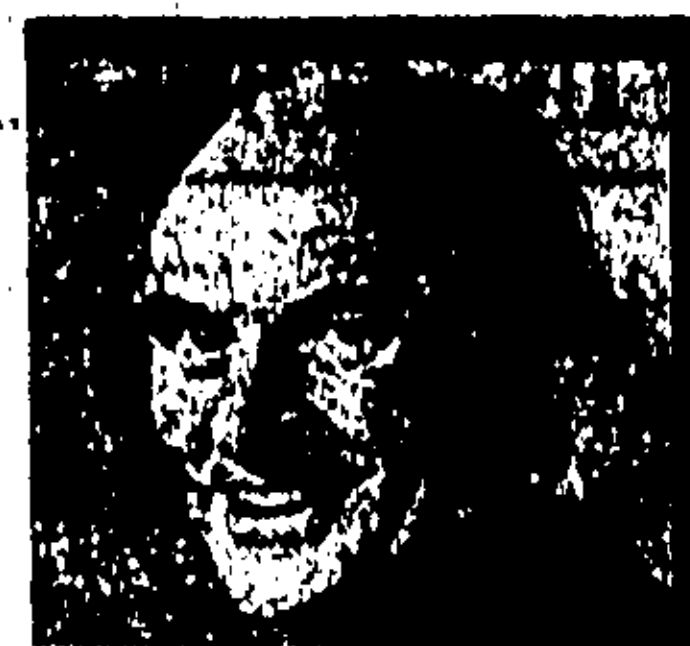
THE youngest member of the panel, PATRICIA CUTTS, is not in the least concerned with her health, and that is as it should be. At 25, she is a successful actress on the stage and a star of TV. She, too, is married, and has a home to run. She works hard, plays hard, eats erratically, goes to bed late.

Here is the busy life, in fact, of the successful career girl. Her constitution stands up well to the heavy strain she puts on it.

But is she storing up trouble for herself in the years ahead? Patricia Cutts brought her dog to the lunch. Normally good tempered, he not unnaturally resented it when the wine waiter accidentally trod on his paw and snarped at him.

Quipped Kenneth Horne: "If you must set your dog at the waiters, Pat, for heaven's sake tell him to lay off the wine waiter!"

Not unnaturally, this led to the subject of alcohol. Is



KENNETH HORNE
comedy and commerce.



ANNE WILSON
housewife, mother of three.

LAST YEAR'S MOST FASHIONABLE COMPLAINT

The curious case of the slipped disc

(By A DOCTOR)

PAIN in the back in some form or another is the fashionable illness of the day.

Not long ago acute pain in the back was nearly always labelled, lambo, which the dictionary defines as "rheumatic affection in the loins." But the idea that lambo has anything to do with rheumatism is dying out, and there is strong medical support for the view that the seat of the pain is not in the muscles or fibrous tissue of the back but in one or more of the joints in the lower part of the spine.

The spine is flexible because there are joints between all the vertebrae.

Inside each joint, forming a tough cushion between the bony surfaces, is a flat disc of strong cartilaginous tissue known as an intervertebral disc.

Trouble begins when a disc is damaged or nipped, which sets up irritation in the sensitive nervous tissue lying inside the vertebral column. It is then that the patient feels acute pain and finds he is unable to move.

The popular name for this anatomical accident is slipped disc.

The disc is not much bigger than a 50-cents piece, and only a small part of it has to move a fraction of an inch to cause pain.

★

There is no reason why discs should slip more commonly now than they did 20 years ago. No one gave a thought to discs in those days and acute pain in the back was just another attack of lambo or fibrositis.

It was in 1934 that an American surgeon first began to look for displaced discs in patients with sciatica, and the operation he devised is often remarkably successful.

His was the first logical explanation for sciatica (except when caused by other diseases), and it was not long before doctors all over the world were paying a good deal more attention to intervertebral discs than they had ever done before.

The consequence has been that not only sciatica but acute pain in the back as well is now often attributed (quite rightly) to a slipped disc. This is a much more interesting condition to both patient and doctor than

lumbago or fibrositis—hence the vogue for the new diagnosis.

Much the same has happened with other diseases in the past: appendicitis is a notable example. It was only shortly before the beginning of this century that surgeons began really to understand appendicitis and they were as eager to apply their new knowledge as patients were ready to follow the example of their King (Edward VII) and have this troublesome piece of their anatomy removed.

At one time it looked as if there were going to be queues of patients waiting to have their discs removed, but it was soon found that the results of this operation were much more modest than those of appendectomy (which is nearly always successful).

★

As a consequence surgeons found themselves in the surprising position of having to curb the desire of many of their patients to lose their discs.

Today the operation is performed on only a small proportion of those with disc trouble.

The safest and most commonly recommended treatment for a slipped disc is rest, but a form of active treatment which often gives good results is called "traction."

The patient is strapped to an instrument which closely resembles a rack from a medieval torture chamber and his back is stretched until the gap between the two vertebrae concerned is widened and the nipped disc can pop back into its right place again.

This is not necessarily a painful procedure, and surprising though it may seem, thousands of patients have expressed great gratitude for the relief it has given them.

In the old days lumbago was not taken very seriously by the healthy, and sufferers often had to endure the jokes of their friends and relatives as well as backache. Things are different now. Anyone who can boast of a slipped disc may be sure of compassionate interest.

This is as it should be. Prolonged and severe pain in the back makes even the toughest feel helpless and wretched, and the unafflicted should be generous with their sympathy.

MORE SETTLED AFRICA SCENE

By Yorke Henderson

IF 1954 does not herald the dawn of a more settled era throughout Britain's African territories, no one can blame lack of official activity.

In January alone there will be constitutional talks at the highest level in Nigeria and Northern Rhodesia; at the same time, a six-man, all-party Parliamentary delegation will try to uncover the well-spring of Kenya's troubles in the course of a couple of weeks.

And while most of his highly-vocal critics are sitting out the Parliamentary Christmas recess in their constituencies, Mr Oliver Lyttelton will be, first in Lusaka, then in Lagos, personally lending his weight to the job of finding a generally acceptable constitutional compromise.

In neither instance can he expect a smooth passage.

In Northern Rhodesia he will find himself up against Sir Roy Welensky, the uncrowned King of the Copperbelt, who wanted no words earlier this year when he expressed himself on the subject of the Colonial Secretary's ruling on electoral developments in the territory.

In Nigeria he will have to cope with Achebe Awolowo, still ranking after a high-worded exchange with him, and determined that

Lagos shall not be taken from Western Nigeria to become a Federal capital.

But no one should lose sight of the fact that stormy as the exchanges at Lusaka and Lagos may be—and in both places local politicians are inclined to bluntness—they will not be the impassioned outpourings of despair. Rather will they be the lusty bawlings of a brace of sturdy infants weathering their teething troubles.

For in both instances the talks are preliminaries to something big; an increase in Northern Rhodesia's stature as she goes into partnership with her neighbours; a dotting of "i's" as Nigeria takes a big step towards the goal of ultimate self-government within the Commonwealth.

Admittedly, at first glance the two situations may look almost incapable of solution. But it is worth remembering that last summer the signs were, if anything, less hopeful, when Nigerian delegates gathered in London for their constitutional conference. By the time it ended, Mr Lyttelton had brought it very, very near complete success.

And that was achieved in the middle of a year probably unequalled in history for colonial crises—a fact which many of Mr Lyttelton's Opposition critics seem inclined to overlook.

By Frank Robbins

JOHNNY HAZARD



WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

Don't Let Your Feet Kill You!

By Helen Follett

DO your feet hurt? When you come into the house after a day of shopping do you kick off your shoes, wish you could learn to walk on your hands?

Those burning, twinging toes are getting back at you because you abuse them. If feet are in good condition, you don't know you have them, but if they're in poor condition you're well aware of it!

If feet hurt, you hurt all over. If anybody so much as looks at you, you want to snarl at them. This is not a pleasant state of affairs. Why don't you do something about it? You spend plenty of time on your complexion and hair. Give your feet a break, too.

Feet will be less sensitive. If you bathe them in warm water every day. Use a heavy brush to rub up circulation. Massage feet and ankles with mineral oil. If you are beset with corns, soften them with the oil, then use a toilet pumice stone to rub away the hardened skin. Put foot powder in your shoes.

And shoes are important, more important than anything else. Tuck your feet in the right kind, those that have leather soles and leather uppers. See that they are big enough and perfectly fitted.

When cutting toenails, clip them straight across. If you have ingrowing nails, do not fancy that you are capable of correcting them by gouging at them with your miniature scissors. Seek the services of a foot specialist. If you wear the same shoes that caused them, they will stay right with you. It is pressure that brings these torments in the first place.

ALL FUSS AND FEATHERS

London. PRESENTING a moral tale about a hat in the news—the hat that turned up on so many celebrated heads recently, from Princess Margaret to Mary Soames, from Lady Churchill to Yvonne de Carlo.

We mirror today the sad spectacle on view whenever the average Englishwoman buys a new hat—the spectacle of her hastening to ruin it at the trimmings counter. You can see her in the West End any day as she hurries to spot the simple becoming lines with a veil or a feather, a pin or a clip.

THE HAT IN THE NEWS IS THE BERET. It is round and small, and one should wear it simple and neat.

But I can list three types of women who each buy the same beret and ruin it in their own individual way:—

FIRST, there is Miss "Can't-Care-Less." She is the "racing type." She wears her beret to keep off rain at race meetings. She says she's not much interested in clothes, and likes a beret simply because you do not know you have got it on. She wears her beret with tweeds, a duffel coat—and,



A black satin full-length evening dress by Victor Stiebel.

The Secretary Who Can't Stand Inactivity

MANY a secretary, in a small office, has been told by her boss, "Things are slow now, but don't worry. Later on, we'll get busy. Meantime, you can read your magazines, or knit."

And the secretary, after thinking, "Gee, he's nice," does one of two things. Either she takes him up on it, and does crossword puzzles, or whatever. Or, she reaches the point where the idleness drives her crazy, decides she has to get a job that keeps her busy, and leaves.

But occasionally, a very bright girl makes this kind of inactivity pay, and gets a jackpot.

Utilised the Time

Jeanne was in that position. She decided to stay with her boss, who was in a new export business which he and one assistant had started. Instead of knitting, or crossword puzzles, or magazines, Jeanne took up some studies.

The firm was trying to get a contract with a big South American company. Jeanne got a good basic Spanish text, and went to work learning the language. She studied it like mad in the office, and then found a tutor for one evening a week, who taught her the pronunciation. When her boss finally landed the South American account, he asked her to find a part-time girl who could handle Spanish correspondence. "I can," she announced, and got a raise.

A Second Slow Period

Several years later, when another slow period came (by this time she had an assistant who handled the typing and filing), she got a good book on export, handling laws, money exchange, and so forth, and studied it thoroughly. That information has very handy before long, and in time she was put in charge of the correspondence department.

Jeanne now has fourteen girls in her department, and a very large salary.

But more than that, she has learned the first requisite of an executive—she knows how to make herself work.

—ANNE HEYWOOD

Smart Travelling Outfit To Suit Many Occasions

By DOROTHY BARKLEY

LONDON. GOOD news for travellers. Fashion designers are championing their cause. And they suggest you choose clothes that will do for as many occasions as possible.

They present a crop of back-to-front sweaters, turnabout skirts and day coats that reverse to a coloured lining for evening.

For holidays in the sun, there is a three-piece outfit in poplin, consisting of skirt and two tops, which can be both beach dress and evening dress. The skirt is reversible, brightly patterned one side, black the other. For the beach it's worn with the patterned side out, and is partnered with a matching sun top. For the evening you have the black side out, and there's a matching blouse—sleeveless, with a boat neckline—to go with it.

Newest housecoats are beachcoats as well. You wear them around the home, then pack them into your bag and take them to the seaside. Favourite material is mouse-striped cotton—the stripes in colour on a white ground.

★ ★ ★

Those holidaying in cold climates haven't been forgotten, either. There's a travel-cum-travel-rug. It's made from a thick tartan wool rug, and is cut so that the fringing forms the hem. According to its makers, it's a good buy because you have two articles for the price of one; it's warm and it "won't crease if you fling it into the back of the car."

Accessories which don't take up much room in a suitcase have been thought up also.

One new idea is to have collar and cuff sets of stiffly starched white poplin like a man's shirt. They are worn with a black sweater to give the impression of a shirt-blouse.

Another new idea is to wear a choker and bracelets of fur with a long-sleeved sweater. This is one occasion when it doesn't have to be blink. Fur fabric is catching on as the smart trimming, though if you feel like spending more money there's nothing to stop you having the real thing.

The popularity of the ballerina evening dress is assured—and for good reasons: It doesn't trail on the ground and get dirty. It can't be trampled and get torn. It is right for cocktails, dancing, dinner and theatre.

There's the other side to the picture, however. Though the full length evening dress plays second fiddle to the ballerina dress on most occasions it's still

first choice for the gala ball. The designs pictured here illustrate both styles. For a full length dress, Victor Stiebel chooses black satin, makes the bodice strapless and trims the bouffant skirt with cabbage roses. For a short evening dress, Hardy Amies chooses shot silk organza—Chinese blue shot with brown—and emphasises the dress's hip yoke with embroidery. Which is your choice?



Hardy Amies' ballerina evening dress in shot silk organza.

They Exchange Notebooks For Wedding Rings

By EILEEN ASCROFT

WHAT are a secretary's chances of marrying her boss? Pretty good, it seems, judging by the men in public life who do pop the question to the girl behind the typewriter.

Excellent, too, according to one woman who is in a position to know. The head of an agency which places many of London's secretaries in posts each week gives four reasons for the high marriage rate in the secretarial world.

FIRST is propriety. This secretarial boss relationship, being closer than any other business partnership.

SECONDLY comes looks. Competition is keen for the plum secretarial jobs. A girl has to be efficient, smart and attractive appearance to land a good job and keep it.

THIRDLY, bachelor bosses become dependent on their secretaries for duties outside office hours.

Selwyn Lloyd QC, MP, who married Miss Elizabeth Marshall after she had been his secretary for 18 months.

Another business - marriage relationship is that of military writer Captain Liddell Hart, who married his secretary, Mrs. Nelson.

One of the most famous of all secretaries who married the boss was, of course, lovely Frances Louise Stevenson. Lloyd George's secretary ever since his daughters took her home from school in 1913.

Beautiful and talented, she was his friend and helper for many years. After his wife's death she became his second wife.

"To be a good secretary," said this wise woman in 1931. "One must have gifts of tact and understanding, an intuitive knowledge of people and character."

As these are also the most important characteristics of the good wife, it may explain why so many efficient secretaries exchange their notebooks for wedding rings.

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THE PROBLEM MEASUREMENT

By IDA JEAN KAIN

WITH fashion's emphasis of the bustline millions of dollars are spent yearly on brassieres. The bustline appears to be the problem measurement — and for all ages.

We inherit the contour and general shape of the body, and when excess pounds pile on, they will add to one's general shape. The bustline may be over large since the flukes there are susceptible to fatty deposit. In most cases of overdevelopment, the trouble is not caused by the gland, but by general overweight. With marked overweight, coupled with low vitality, the bustline is often extremely underdeveloped. Some slight girls, with buxant health and lovely postures, have well-developed busts.

Since weight is a factor in size, there is the cue to diminishing or augmenting the bosom. General reducing, through diet, will lessen the size of the bust. On a gaining programme, that builds strength, not merely piles on fat, the thin girl can develop her bosom.

The bustline, more than any other measurement, is influenced by the general state of health. On a lacy, inadequate diet, weight can be lost, but the effect on the bosom can be disastrous. Too abrupt weight loss gives the skin no chance to contract, and when the diet falls to meat, the skin of the body visibly lowers. A gradual weight loss of 2 to 3 pounds a week, on a highly protective

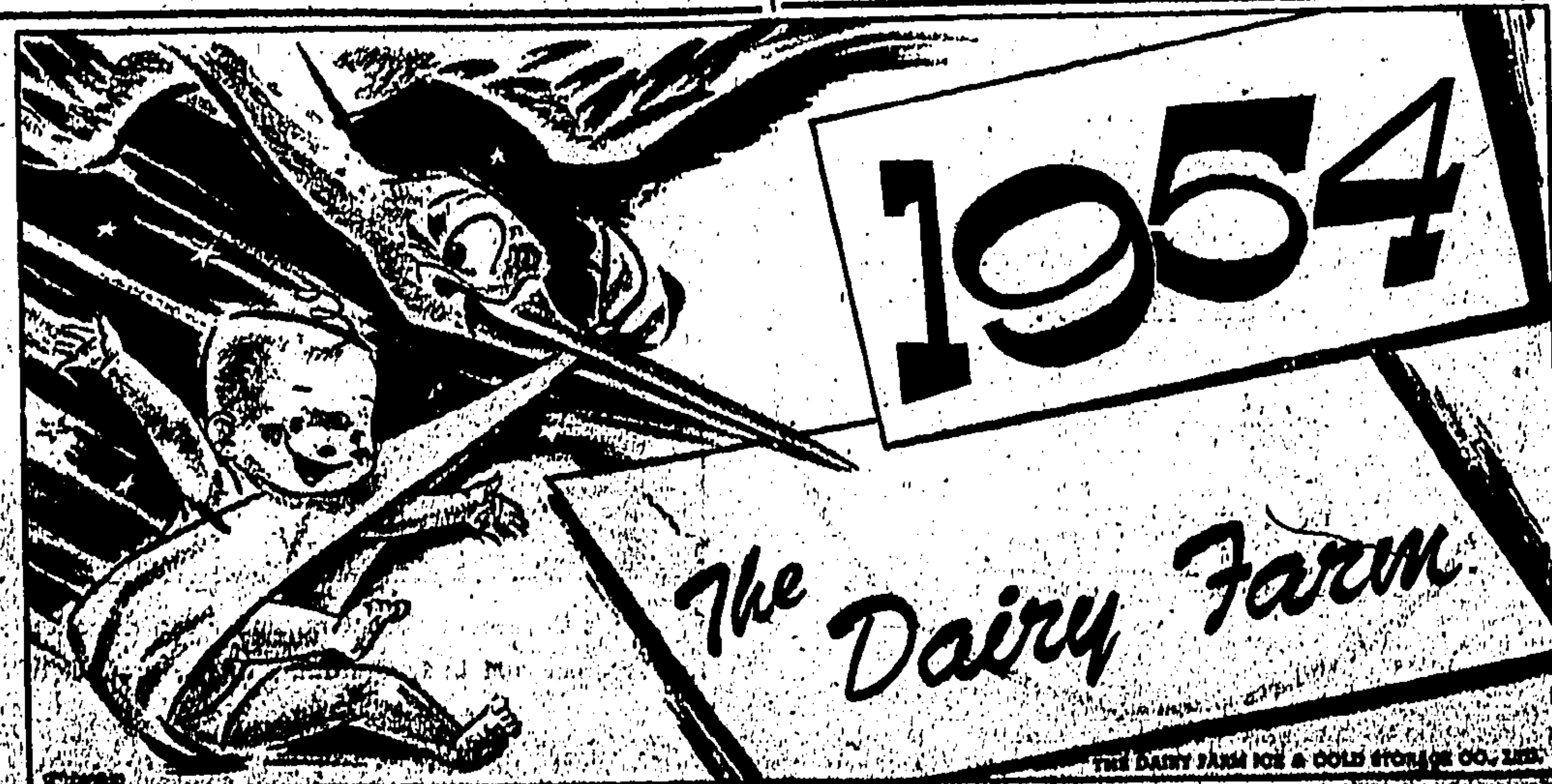
diet, will improve the bust and your health as well.

We are prone to regard the bosom as a problem unto itself, instead of in relation to general health and well-being—as well as muscle tone, skin tone, and posture. This brings us to the role of exercise in bust beauty. Exercise cannot reduce the size, for the breasts are composed of glands, not muscle. But the pectoral muscles underneath help support this measurement. The sagging breast is invariably due to lack of muscle tone in the supporting muscles and ligaments.

To effectively tone these supporting pectoral muscles, raise arms first to horizontal position, then exercise. The breast stroke,

patterned after the now old fashioned swim stroke, is the golden "Swim" it out of the water. Resistance exercises are excellent: first raise arms to horizontal position in front of chest; bend elbows and, with right flat in the palm of the left hand, press vigorously with the muscles of one arm, while pushing with the other. This old favourite is good exercise.

With the overly large, or sagging, bosom, it is best to wear a supporting bra while exercising—with the support from underneath—but straps loose to allow for freedom of arm motion. Thanks to ingenious designers, today there are special brassieres for the problem bosom, bras which uplift and control without pressure.

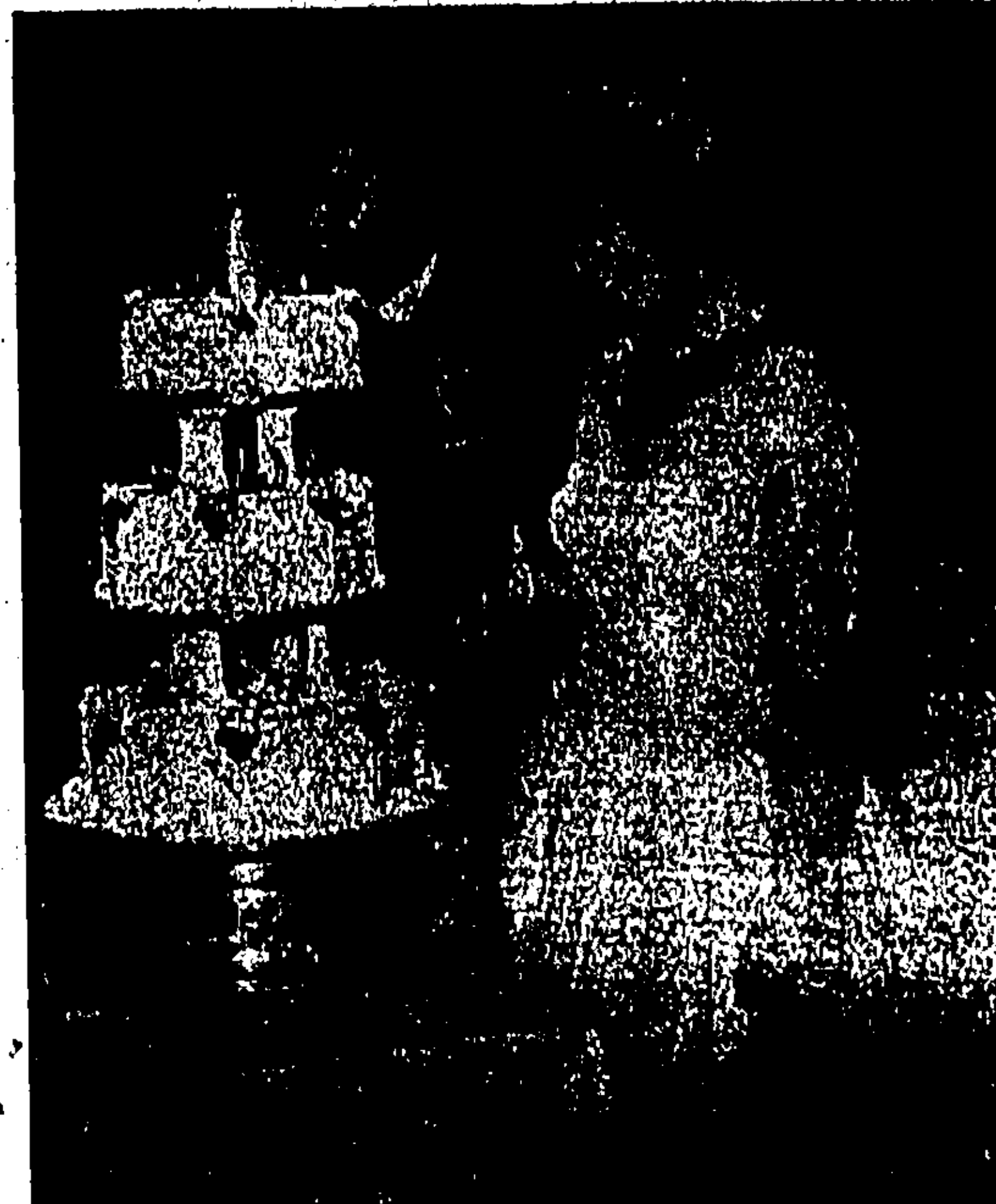




HIS Excellency the Governor of Macao, Rear-Admiral Joaquim Marques Esparteiro, shaking hands with Lady Grantham at Queen's Pier on his arrival last week. He was accompanied by Senhora Esparteiro and their two daughters on a private trip. (Staff Photographer)



PICTURED at the entrance of St John's Cathedral after their wedding last week are Mr and Mrs Ronald Arthur Mander and friends. The bride was Miss Hilda Lucy Clarke. (Staff Photographer)



DR Chester Chen helps his bride, the former Julia Fong, in cutting their wedding cake at the reception following the nuptial ceremony at the Chinese Congregational Church. (Staff Photographer)



GROUP outside the Union Church at the wedding of Miss Tina Withrow to Mr E. G. Yourloff. (Fotoprint)

BELOW: Mr Augusto Carneiro and Miss Jacqueline Brown photographed with friends after their wedding at the Rosary Church. (Willie's)



THE International Youth Group held a Christmas party in the West Lounge of the European YMCA on Monday. Above are some of those who attended and had a good time. (Staff Photographer)



THE Hon. the Chief Justice and Lady Howe arriving at the Roxy Theatre for the premiere of the CinemaScope film, "The Robe." Greeting Lady Howe is Mr Yeo Ong-jin, Manager of the Roxy. (Staff Photographer)



RIGHT: Mrs R. B. Black presenting prizes at the annual speech day of St Joseph's College. (Staff Photographer)



FAMILY group photograph taken at the 70th birthday celebration of Mrs Fung Yiu-hing, mother of Mr Fung Hon-chu, Chairman of the Tung Wah Hospitals' Board of Directors. (Sun Ying Ming)



ST John's Cathedral choristers, under the direction of Mr Donald Fraser, singing carols for His Excellency the Governor and Lady Grantham in the grounds of Government House last week. (Staff Photographer)

Now showing —

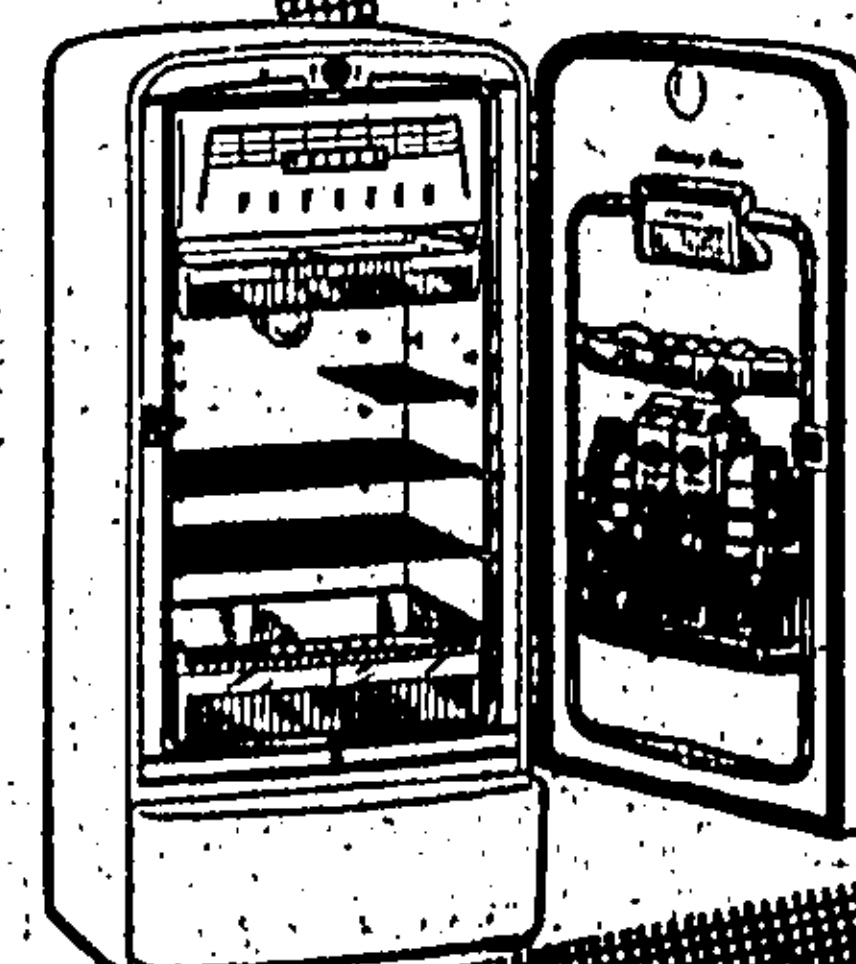
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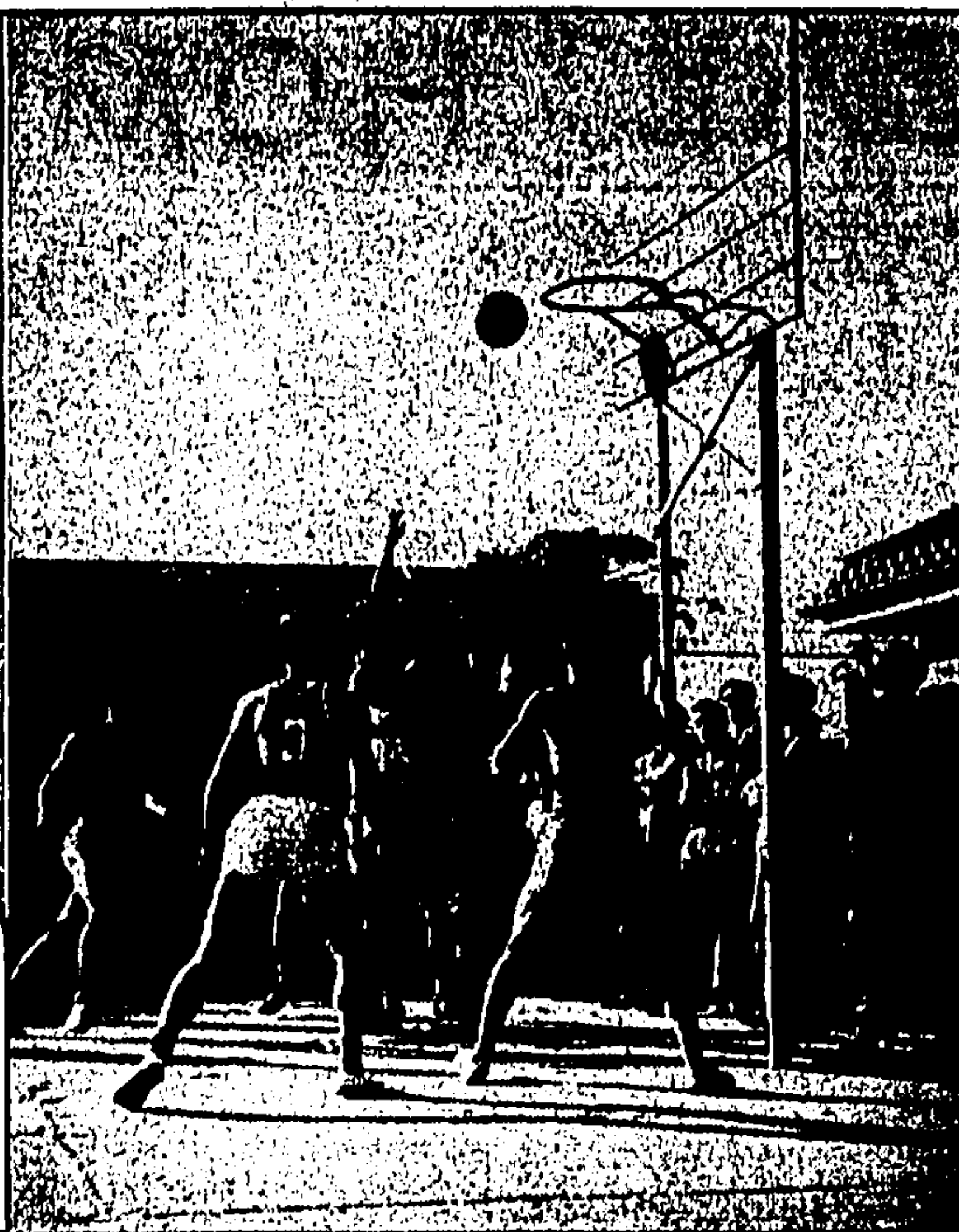
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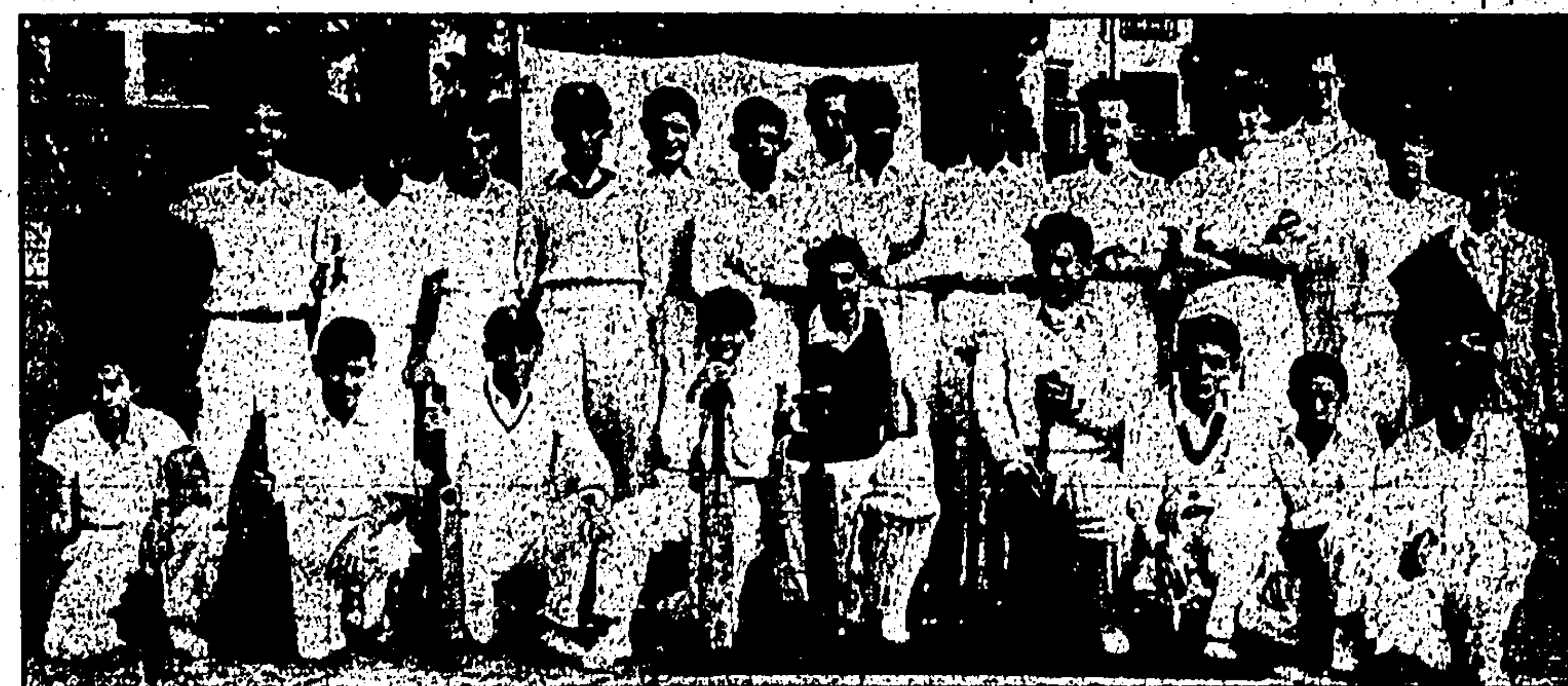
MR H. Ching, Editor of the South China Morning Post, addressing members of the Morning Post Staff Club in a light vein at the Club's annual Christmas Eve festive luncheon. Right: Basketball game in progress at Cheung Chau, which members of the SCMP Sports Association visited on Boxing Day. Below: Mr F. P. Franklin, Managing Director, with the Sports Association band at Cheung Chau. (Staff Photographer)



CHILDREN of the families of 27 Brigade Headquarters enjoying their Christmas party before the arrival of Father Christmas at the Church Institute, Fanling.



HIS Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, talking to Mr J. Cater, Registrar of Co-operatives and Director of Marketing, during a visit to the Yaumati wholesale vegetable market last week. In right-hand picture, the Governor is receiving a greeting card from a boy of the Tai Po Fishermen's Children's School. (Staff Photographer)



RIGHT: Young cricketers of the Diocesan Boys' School and King George V School who took part in a friendly match on Wednesday. The match was drawn. (Willie's)

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MR R. H. Lobo, Mrs Blight, Mr A. V. Alvaros, Mrs Alvaros and Col E. M. Blight at the housewarming party held at "Arrowhead," Mr Alvaros' residence at Deep Water Bay, last Sunday. (Cambridge Wang)

RIGHT: Rallying to the relief of the homeless victims of the disastrous Christmas night squatter settlement fire in Shamshui, volunteer workers have been helping with the distribution of food, clothing and other necessities to the victims. These pictures show the issuing of cooked rice and bread by Army and Civil Aid Services personnel. (Staff Photographer)



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PRACTICAL HOMECRAFT



Let's Eat
by
IDA BAILEY ALLEN

Solving Homemaking Problems Means A Happier New Year

"It is wonderful to contemplate a whole New Year," remarked the Chef.

"This New Year, contains the same gift for everybody—200 days, which means almost 9,000 hours. They can be pleasurable and filled with accomplishment, or unhappy and full of frustration. It's a matter of choice."

What is the world has set off this philosophical Chef? "It is the memory of many times when I have met in our personal appearance, the most of them are happy and efficient, all are well! I cannot find the homemaking problems that bother them. The biggest of all seemed to be that of time. There are not enough hours in the day to accomplish what must be done," they say. "Please tell us how to save time."

"Chef, you've marked a good idea. Let's show our readers how to make the best use of their time and energy, and how to make better use of the time they save."

Bake-Ball Vegetables

"Save fuel and watching time by bake-boiling vegetables in the oven with other baking foods. Puree and quarter, dice, or slice the vegetables. Place in a saucepan that can go in the oven. Add 1/2 inch boiling water, and 1/2 tsp. each salt and monosodium glutamate to 3 cups of the vegetable. Bring to boiling point. Cover, and bake-boil until tender."

Oven-Dinner

Pickled Beet Salad
Fish Fillets Baked in Milk
Baked Quartered Potatoes
Bake-Boiled Diced Rutabagas
Corn Bread Squares
Pineapple Gel
Coffee Tea Milk
Fish Fillets Baked in Milk
Cut 1 lb. any kind, fresh or frozen fish fillets into 4 portions for serving. Mix together

1 tsp. enriched flour, 1 tsp. monosodium glutamate, 1 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. pepper and 1/4 tsp. powdered oil. Rub into the fish. With butter or margarine, generously oil a shallow baking dish that can go-to-table. Put in the fish. Cover with 2 c. heated milk. Dot with 1 tsp. butter or margarine. Bake 35 min. in a moderate oven, 375° F., or until the liquid is largely absorbed, the fish looks pinky and is lightly browned on top. Surround with baked quartered potatoes, garnish with parsley. Turn the contents 1 envelope unflavoured gelatin into a 4-l. refrigerator dish. Add 2 tsp. cold water; let stand 5 min. Then stir in 2 c. boiling water, and keep stirring until the gelatin dissolves. Add 1/3 c. sugar and 2 tbsp. lemon juice. Then turn in the contents of 1 (1-lb.) tin crushed pineapple. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hrs. Stir once when the gel begins to thicken. Serve plain or with a whipped topping.

Roast Shoulder of Veal

Order a shoulder of veal boned, ready to stuff. Dust the interior with 1/4 tsp. Pepper mixed with 1 tsp. each salt and monosodium glutamate. Spoon in celery-onion stuffing. Roll and tie firmly. Cook the outer part in a dozen places with a sharp knife; insert in each a silver of peeled garlic. Brush with salad oil; rub all over with a mixture of 2 tsp. enriched flour mixed with 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. monosodium glutamate and 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Place on a rack in a roasting pan. Bake in a hot oven, 450° F., for 20 min., or until the meat begins to brown. Then reduce the heat to 350° F., and roast until tender. Allow 25 min. to the pound. Baste 3 times with 1 c. hot water containing 1 dissolved beef bouillon cube and 2 tsp. lemon juice.

DOCTOR ADVISES ON HOME PERMANENTS

By W. W. BAUER, M.D.

PERMANENT waves have a real bearing on health, aside from the very important boost to the morale that may result from a good permanent, or the reverse from a bad one. Home permanent waves in particular have caused some confusion and much discussion.

In the beauty parlour there are skilled operators, working under supervision and inspection, eager to please their customers, and always conscious of the damage that their business might sustain from injury done to a customer. In the home, these conditions do not exist. Yet it is quite possible, by following instructions carefully, to have safe and satisfactory home permanents. Many women now have their permanent waving done at home, with the help of mother, daughter, sister, cousin, neighbour—perhaps even an unwilling husband.

Most Practical

The cold wave is the most practical kind for home use. When it was first introduced, there were some questions about its safety. Now, with the satisfactory experience of millions of users as reassurance, plus studies and observations of a scientific nature, the method can be regarded as safe, if properly used. This should not encourage carelessness. Neither the waving lotion nor the neutraliser (where used) should be left within reach of children. Contact of solutions with skin should be held to a

minimum; if any is spilled on the skin, it should be washed off at once. Solutions must be kept away from the eyes and lining of the nose. Since it is the operator and her skill that determine success and safety, here are some suggestions from the A.M.A. Committee on Cosmetics: skin of the hands and scalp should be examined to be sure that it is free from scratches, cuts or any open area. Even chapped hands call for rubber gloves—better still, skip the home job and go to the beauty parlour. Take plenty of time to read directions; if you change brands, start all over with the new technique, which may be quite different. Even the same brand name may have undergone changes in composition and a new set of directions must be followed. The home operator, lacking the training and experience of the professional, needs to use particular care in following instructions. Use an alarm clock or a cooking timer to check the intervals called for in the directions for leaving solutions on the hair—do not depend on memory.

Disposing of Solutions

When the home permanent is finished, pour the solutions down the drain. Accidental drinking of these chemicals can have serious results.

Occasionally skin reactions result from exposure to wave lotions. Care in their use will prevent many of these, but some skins are so easily irritated that the greatest care will not prevent inflammations. Irritation happens mainly in delicate skins and can usually be foretold. Persons with eczema or other skin diseases should not expose them to chemical irritants, even during inactive phases of the disease. The same caution applies to allergic individuals.

Permanent waves for children have come into style, and the question is raised—are they safe? The same general cautions apply as to adults, with some extra emphasis, because the skin is often very sensitive in children. But there is another factor. A child's hair is usually attractive, wavy or curly. It has the charm of naturalness, which no artificial procedure can surpass. Little girls have only a limited time to be little girls. Why start them aping women so early? Once you start with permanents for children, it is difficult to stop. Children should be allowed to be children, without premature dependence on cosmetics. There will be time enough later for them to be grown-ups.

Preventing Home Accidents

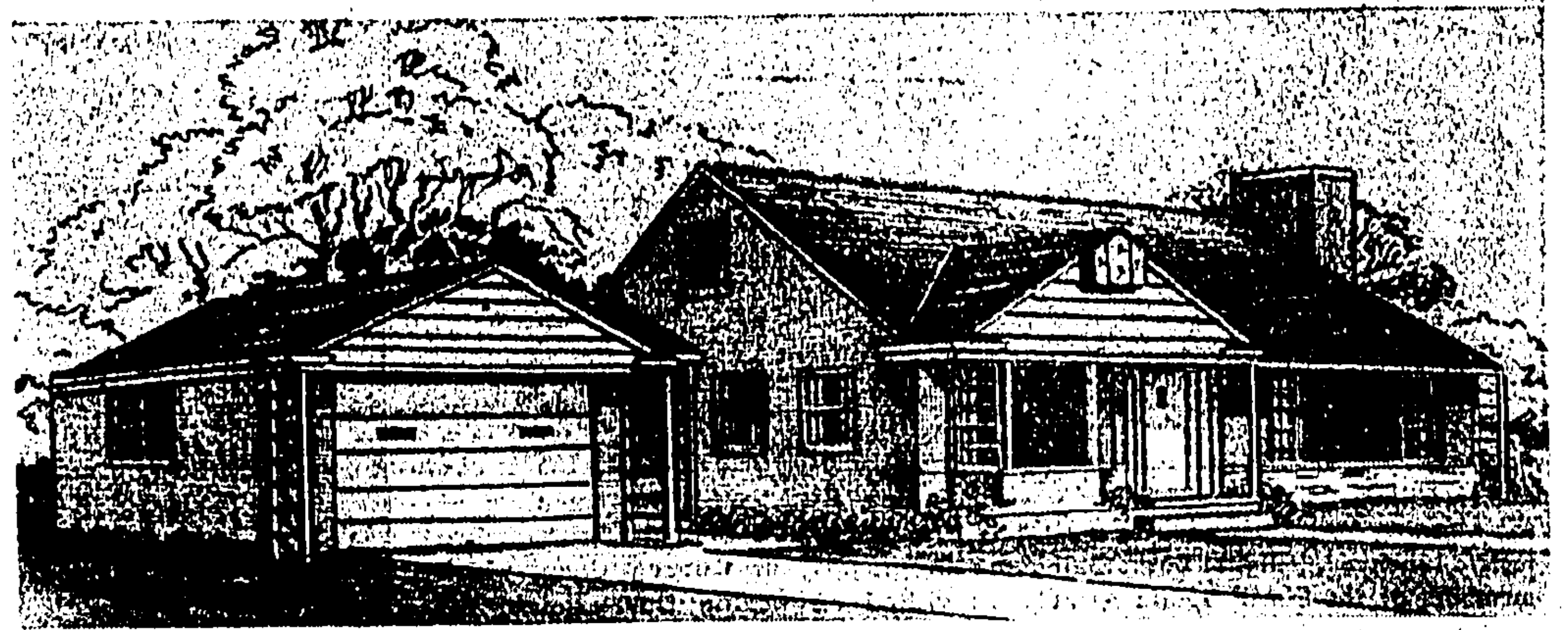
ACTIVITIES of winter bring their own fire and accident hazards. So take a few moments to review the causes of dangers in the home, and set up precautions to avoid, or at least minimise, the damage, injury, even death that may be caused without such forethought.

See that all wiring is carefully placed along baseboard tops or, better still, completely concealed. When building or re-modelling have a series of outlets along hallways and at strategic places to minimise wiring as much as possible.

Danger lurks in the skillet, when grease catches fire. The safest way to put out the flames is to turn the burner off quickly and throw salt on the burning grease. Never, never use water on burning fat or oil. A small fire extinguisher is an excellent thing to have at hand in the kitchen. It is a wise woman who wears simple clothes while going about her homemaking duties, avoiding any with fluffiness and ruffles, and choosing simple, relatively close-fitting house-dresses.

Long hair should be pinned up or held in net or snood. Slippers, or old shoes with run-down heels, should be discarded in favour of well-fitting low-heeled oxford, sandal or strap shoes that support the foot and so help prevent a fall or misstep. If the household lacks a ladder, invest, at least, in a step-stool or better still, one of the new light aluminium ladders. Don't go on making do with a chair or box and, some times atop of it, a practice that has caused some dreadful accidents.

★ Something Special ★



TWO LARGE PICTURE WINDOWS make the exterior of House Design H-242-KF doubly attractive. A trellis and a colourful planting box decorate the den window. The front porch is covered by the projected gable; a garage is planned to give the house a long line.

By JOAN O'SULLIVAN

HERE'S something special in a one-and-a-half storey design with all the convenience of a much larger home.

For one thing, it has three very large bedrooms. For another, the first floor den can be used as a fourth bedroom if needed. The latter, with its picturesque bay window, might also be utilised in a variety of other ways. Furnish it with a sofa bed and let it double as guest quarters. Or, if there are teenagers in the family, let them take

it over as a special spot to entertain the younger set. Dad could use it as a study; Mum might make it her sewing corner.

No matter what the family's hobbies or habits are, the den is a valuable part of the plan. It's an extra room that enables a family to spread out, that keeps them from tripping over each other, gives them a chance to get off by themselves.

The spacious living-dining combination is a sunny area. Light streams in through a picture window at front and a row of windows in the rear dining section. A fireplace adds a cozy touch.

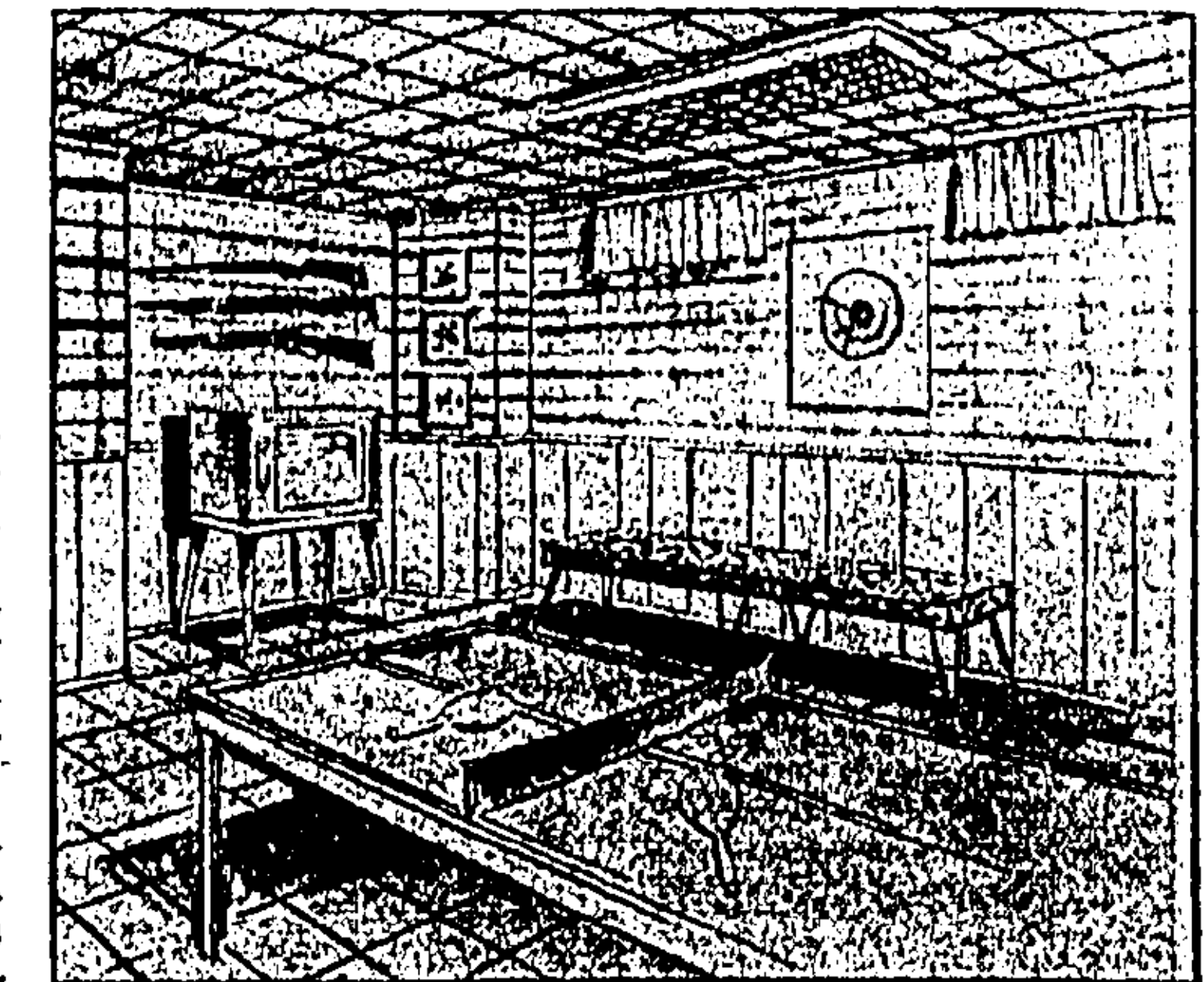
From the dining room, there's an entrance to the roomy kitchen with its corner window and breakfast nook. A door from the kitchen leads to a rear porch which is a covered walk leading to the breezeway and garage.

A stairway to the basement, where there's a recreation room, is convenient to the kitchen. In the hall near the kitchen are three closets—two for linen, one for brooms and cleaning equipment. Note how the bath, placed at the rear of the house, serves both sleeping and work areas.

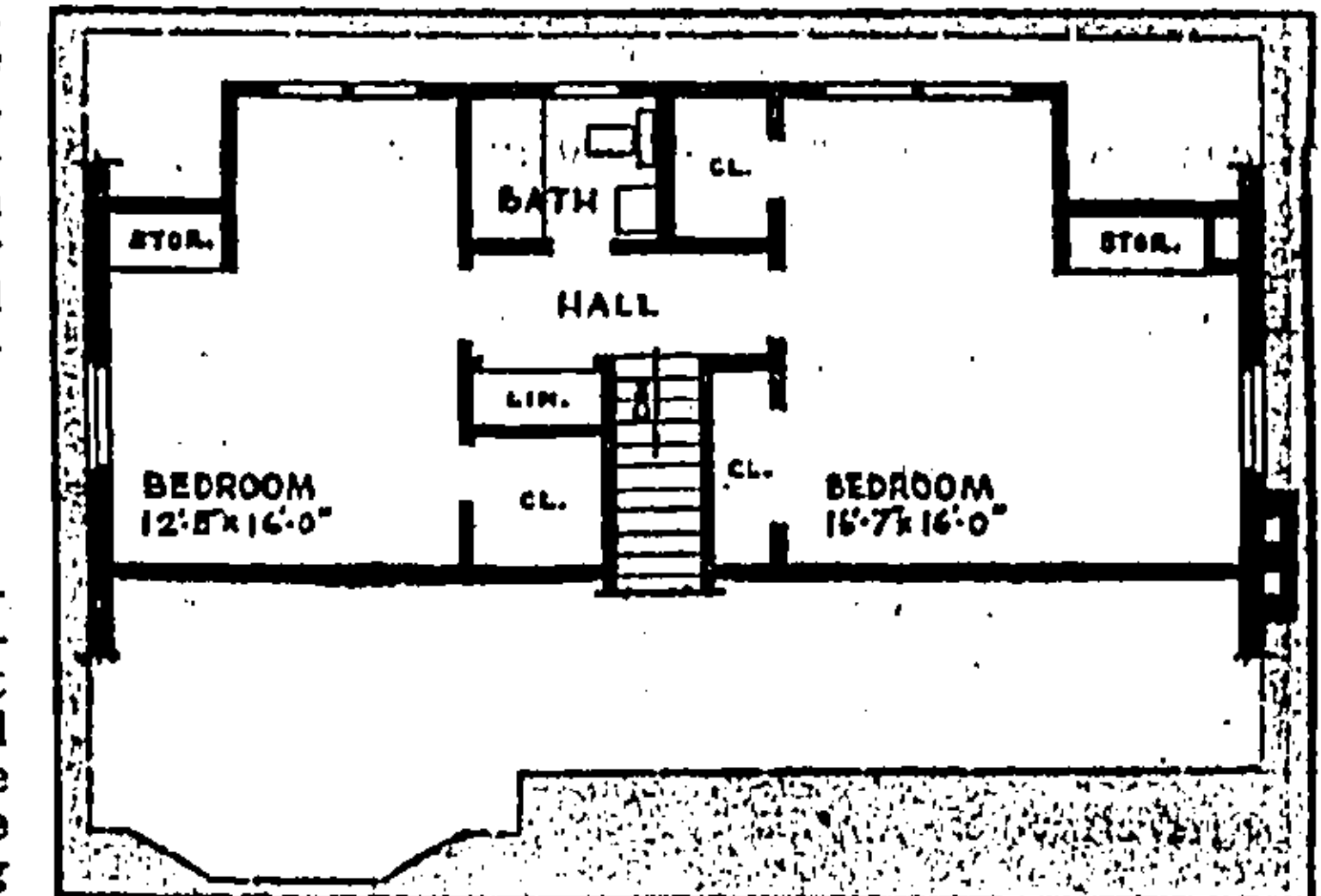
The first-floor bedroom has a huge walk-in closet, while the two second storey bedrooms boast three very large wardrobe closets and two storage closets. A linen closet and an additional bath are also on this level.

Traffic circulation is excellently arranged in this home. The first floor bedroom and den are located to one side of the home for privacy. Notice, too, how the centre hall leads to all rooms.

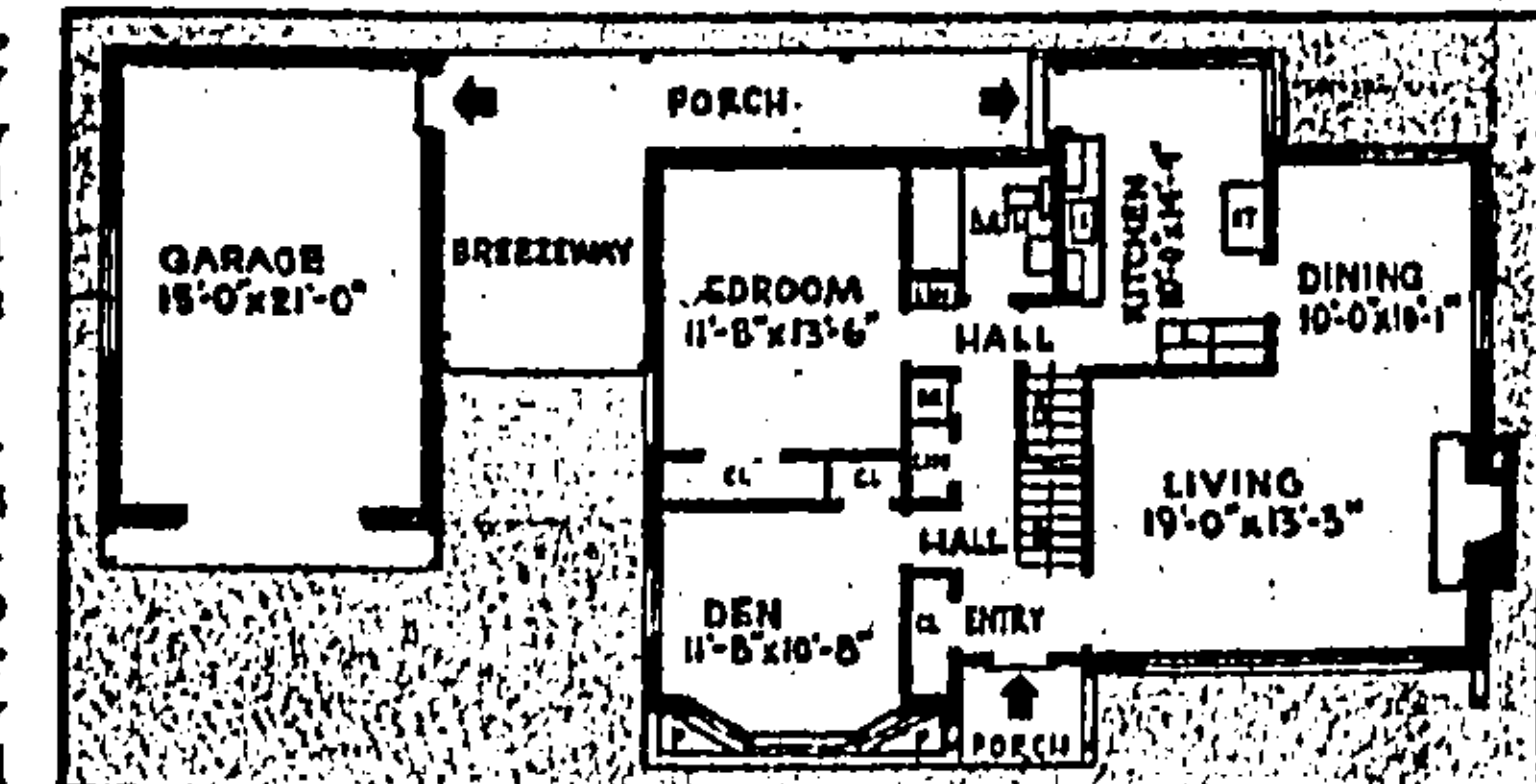
The house comprises 26,777 cubic feet.



A BASEMENT RECREATION ROOM is one of two special "extras" planned for this home. The other "extra" is the first-floor den.



NO ONE CAN COMPLAIN about the size of these bedrooms! Both are quite large and each has very generous closet and storage space.



THIS IS AN EFFICIENT FLOOR PLAN. A centre hall leads to all rooms. Note, how bedroom and den are arranged for privacy.

It's Easy—If You Know How—And A Lot Of Fun, Too!

MAKING up plastic film yardage is rewarding and economical fun. Once you get started, chances are that you'll be concocting all sorts of pretty things—from cocktail aprons to shower curtains. Plastic film is easy to handle once a few tricks have been mastered.

Before sewing, hang the fabric over a table end, or if it is a very large piece, over an open door, to secure a smooth surface. Use weights instead of the usual pins when cutting patterns. (Books will do nicely.) Mark the fabric with pencil. After cutting, use paper clips to keep patterns and cut sections together.

In sewing, use a thin needle—No. 11, is best—and mercerised

By ELEANOR ROSS

thread. Set the sewing machine for a slightly longer stitch than for most fabrics.

Light pressure and light tension should be employed for stitching.

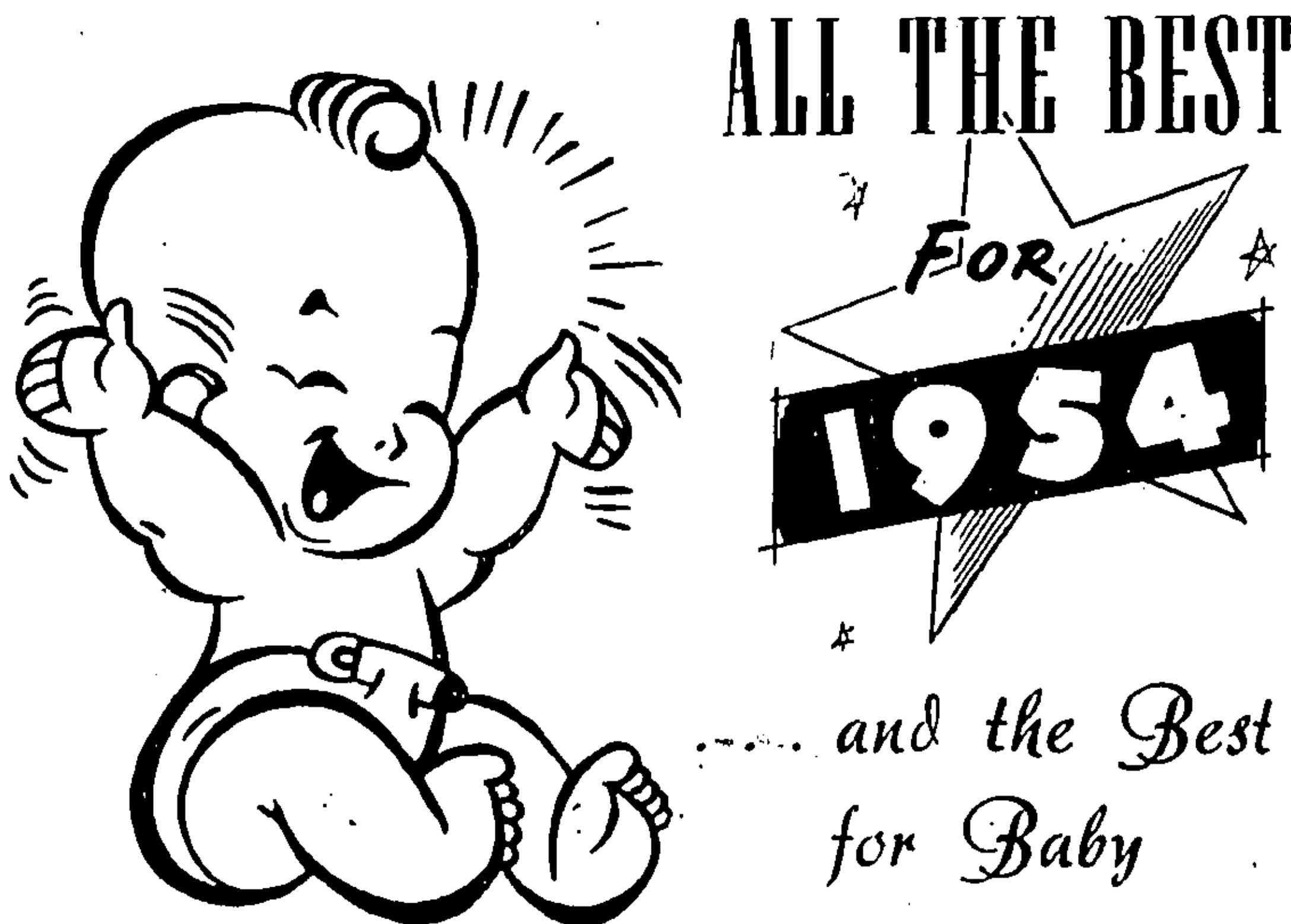
There's no need to baste or to turn under raw edges, because the material doesn't fray. Pinkish sheers or pinkish attachment of machine will do a neat job finishing off the raw edges.

It doesn't matter if the plastic film gets a smudge or two in the process of being made up, since a rubbing down with a damp cloth should do the trick. For real laundering, use lukewarm water. To make a 1 foot wide—10 inch high—plastic film, the other side would make a nice shrunk terry cloth. It requires vacation gift.

a length of plastic film six feet long and three feet wide, nice in red and white pin stripes, or in a black, white and narrow red stripe design. Use the same yardage of terry cloth.

Sew film and terry together, wrong side out, on three sides. Then turn right side out and make up fourth side. It's as easy as that!

To run up a matching bag, make a pillow slip of plastic film and one of terry in whatever size desired. Sew together at top. For a fastening, sew the special shower curtain tape made for plastic film around top of bag. Pull heavy cotton cord through tape system. Incidentally, such a bag, the bag mainly filled with plastic film, is a useful, durable, and such, would make a nice vacation gift.



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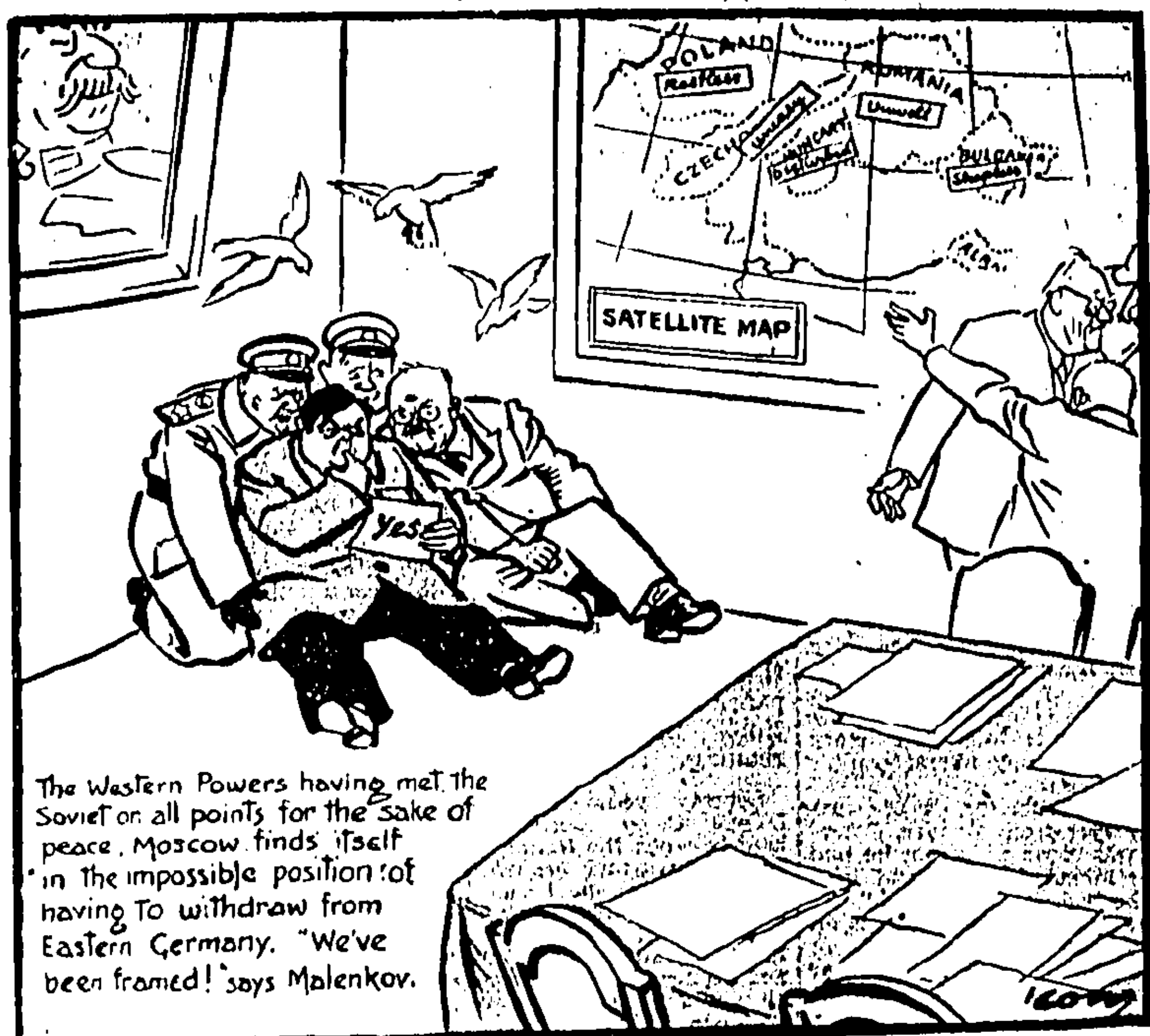


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OLD LOW'S ALMANACK-

PROPHECIES FOR 1954

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BEVERLEY BAXTER SAYS

ONE THING IS CERTAIN ABOUT THIS NEW YEAR

THERE is only one thing certain about the year 1954—it will be interesting. Perhaps one might venture a little further into prophecy and declare that it will be unusually interesting. At any rate why not flatter the brat while we are at it?

Philosophers have always contended that man is fortunate in not being able to see into the future. Since we are such stuff as dreams are made on, it is perhaps as well that we cannot see too far along the never-ending flight of days. To dream is sometimes better than to know.

Yet I cannot accept the philosophy that the distant tomorrow is hidden by an impenetrable curtain. It has been said in relation to human life that character is destiny. Most of us have seen men whose future is written on their faces. "He will go far," or "He will come to a sticky end," are the platitudes of day to day prophecy.

Therefore, I do not think that the mewing and spewing infant 1954 is entirely unpredictable. The poor little blighter is as subject to the influences of heredity as any other baby.

TROUBLE

So, without any hesitation, we can say that 1954 will be a year of trouble, disappointment, upheaval and frustration. Nothing can be more certain than that science will continue to find new and better methods of prolonging life and ending it. On the other hand science will not be able to cure the common cold.

Let us look into the crystal more closely. I see trouble coming from Germany, Russia, China, France, Egypt and perhaps Ireland. There will be misunderstandings between Washington and London. Canada, on the other hand, will be proclaimed the country of the future. Youth is Canada's oldest tradition, and long may it remain so.

The biggest problem will be Russia. Let no one envy Mr Malenkov, for he has the number one tough job of the world. Two things terrify him by day

and at night. He has to choose between the enmity or the friendship of the Western world, and either can destroy him.

For the first time in history the democracies are armed in advance. If there were a war Russia would inflict terrible damage on the West, but Russia herself would be reduced to a vast, horrible graveyard. Therefore it would seem a reasonable deduction that the Kremlin will not make war on a grand scale in the year 1954.

MALENKOV

But will she wage peace? Again, looking into the crystal, I see no fluttering dove.

A despotic form of government can only hold down a people if it convinces them that the outside world is planning to destroy them, or that the outside world is collapsing because it will not adopt the same way of life as the people living under the despotic system.

If Malenkov took the gamble of friendship with the West and allowed the free mingling of his people with ours, he would find that tyranny cannot and dare not breathe the air of liberty. If it did it would die like a fish panting out its life on dry land.

Therefore Mr Malenkov has to keep on persuading his people that the West is collapsing and, at the same time, planning war against the Soviet. Even if washed down with vodka, that must be pretty hard to take.

I predict then that Mr Malenkov will find 1954 a very troublesome year, and that our nerves will be strained from time to time as a result.

But let us look on the sunny side. Here is our great friend and ally, the mighty United States of America. Shakespeare said that the evil that men do lives after them. True enough—but so does the good. For example, the whole civilized world owes a deep debt to Mr Truman as the greatest little man of modern times.

COHERENT

Never have wisdom, magnanimity and self-interest been so splendidly knit together as under his administration. Compare his plan of Marshall Aid at the end of the Hitler war with the similar situation in 1919 when the Administration at Washington declared that war debts were more sacred than human sacrifice. The world war of 1939 was made inevitable by the American blunders of 1919.

Let us in the year 1954 thank God that America has come of age. Truman's swift answer to the threat in Korea made Christendom a coherent whole.

But America will do stupid things in 1954. Because of internal pressure from organized groups she will probably force down the price of rubber in Malaya until the workers on the plantations will be as badly paid that they will be ripe once more for Communism and revolution.

Wall Street will exert too much influence in Washington. President Eisenhower will find that he is a Commander-in-Chief expected to take orders from those he commands. But I predict that in this year ahead of us he will become less of a compromiser and more of a leader. The faith that the American people placed in him was justifiably right. I sincerely believe that this will be proved to the eyes of history in 1954.

Yet strains will increase between America and Great Britain. There are Americans with split minds who want to weaken Britain's world power while expecting her to be a full ally in defence.

I suggest that the British Government will become increasingly tough in its dealings with the USA. This will not come from any jealousy nor any desire of the old aristocrat to regain the glories of other days. But Great Britain will say in plain English to America: "You must not weaken our economy and, at the same time, ask us to assume equal status with ourselves in the matter of defence."

UNENDING

There is no need to bother looking into the crystal in order to see if there will be dark doings in Britain's Colonial Empire. Of course there will be troubles unending. Under the protection of Britain the Colonial territories have developed to the point where they are not merely determined to achieve self-government but may want complete independence.

The British have a reply to this, even if it seems out of date. Rightly or wrongly this is the British case: "In the 18th and 19th centuries we founded the Empire by the skill of our explorers. We maintained the safety of the Empire by the strength of our arms. In the economic sphere we made Britain a market for your raw material, and we made the Colonies a market for our manufactured goods. This we do maintain a population rising to 50 millions on an island possessing no raw materials except some agriculture, a lot of coal and an abundance of fish. Now you would like to be given complete freedom, but while we undoubtedly have a deep responsibility towards you we have an even greater responsibility to the 50 million Britishers living on an island which has not the natural resources to maintain more than 20 million people."

"And may we say to our older children—Canadians, Australians and New Zealanders—that it was British cooperation, the sacrifice of British blood and the genius of British politics

WELL, on my third trip to America, and at my very first attempt, I finally got to Brooklyn. And I learned something on the trip that I did not know when I started. There are 71 square miles of Brooklyn.

That, of course, is why nearly everyone you know in New York was born there. You have got to be pretty smart to be born in New York and miss being born in Brooklyn.

But deep in the heart of New York's most-mentioned suburb is the most fantastic store in the world. That's why I went. Don't think it was easy, though.

Brooklyn, I was told, meant a subway ride.

That is not as simple as it sounds. In New York they are, understandably, not too proud of their underground stations. So they do not have any brightly coloured signs.

I finally solved this find-the-subway game by calling a taxi and asking the driver to take me to the right station. Naturally he took me to the wrong one and when I eventually found the right line, naturally I took the wrong train.

Apt adjective

I FOUND myself at Flatbush. Flatbush was apparently part of Brooklyn, but just as apparently not the part I wanted.

EVE PERRICK

takes the Tube (oh, all right, call it the Subway) to Brooklyn

To cut a long and sordid story short, I managed to extricate myself from Flatbush and came to Franklin Avenue (still Brooklyn) and finally reached my objective—the ladies-wear store known as Lehmans.

Before we go in, perhaps I had better qualify that word "sordid." It seems the aptest adjective to describe the New York subway.

It is shabby, smelly, and strewn with litter. Warning notices proclaim that people who throw rubbish around will be prosecuted. I gathered there must be many fugitives from Justice riding those trains. After an hour or so in them you begin to feel rather like a criminal yourself.

Let me at the same time kill a couple of false impressions about Brooklyn—so often and so wrongly described as New York's Slough.

If it can be compared with a London district, I'd say that superficially it bears some resemblance to the grey gaudy

ness of Islington, Brickton, or Hammersmith. AND I was there a whole day without hearing a soul say "den boids," although it is true that all the policemen I spoke to did have Irish accents.

Right now. Still with me? On to the shopping. Now all I'd heard about this fantastic women's world known as Lehmans had been from one of the leading New York dress manufacturers.

He had told me how Mrs Lehmans, now 74, but still the terror of Seventh Avenue (the wholesale clothing showroom area of New York), whenever she foraged there on a buying trip, had started the place way back in the Depression.

Surplus stocks

THE lady from Brooklyn I learned, had had the idea of buying up at the bargain-price all the surplus stocks of women's clothes, which were then unsellable in the ordinary way.

She and the store had gone on from there so that today Lehmans had become the leading spot for all the clothes that the foremost dress houses in America found themselves stuck with.

In layman's language—in Lehmans you could find a dress that would cost you £70 on Fifth Avenue marked down to £25.

So to Brooklyn and Lehmans journeyed not the ordinary bargain-basement types (they don't go for anything cheaper than £3 usually), but those women with expensive tastes in clothes and a deep-rooted sense of economy.

Even briefed with this bit of historical datum I was still somewhat staggered when I saw the place. There, at the corner of a dingy, lower-class street of cheap-looking shops and grimy houses let off in flats, stood the emporium.

Lavish gilding

ITS decor can best be described as the sort of thing that might emerge if Louis B. Mayer and the architect of Lyons Corner Houses got together on the plans for a Renaissance-type palace. It was built of black marble, lavishly trimmed with gilded wrought iron.

Immediately inside the front door two enormous bronze lions were covered with the children their mothers had parked there

while they joined the dress hunt upstairs.

The second floor (first floor in our language) was the particular place to make for, I had been advised. So I made my way past an immense tapestry and two huge thrones of carved stone, crimson plush, and much gilding on the first landing, to the floor reserved for women only.

The delvers

I IMMEDIATELY saw why no men were allowed upstairs in Lehmans. There, under the crystal chandeliers, diving in and out of the racks, staggering across the slippery marble floors carrying piles of dresses and suits and coats, were hundreds of women in their underwear.

The way to shop here was to strip to your slip, hide the clothes you came in, and start delving.

I followed the rules, but I was not very good at this sort of game.

In the first place, the sight of a load of ladies wandering around wearing bra, panties, and hats made me mildly hysterical.

Second, I came up against a hazard which can only safely be negotiated by veteran bargain hunters of the New York stores.

All two-piece outfits (like suits and jacket-and-dress ensembles) have the garments tied together with a long piece of string. I never quite got the hang of getting into the things without trying to garrotte myself.

Hands off

SO I gave up my personal plan of bringing back alive from Brooklyn the biggest bargain ever captured single-handed, and just watched the others.

I had a good look round, though, and was by then only slightly surprised to find on one of the racks a fabulous outfit consisting of a long and full-skirted ball-gown with a matching long and full-skirted coat, both made entirely of iridescent sequins. The price for the two was £270.

"Good heavens," I exclaimed, and asked the saleswoman what was the original pre-Brooklyn price.

She said she believed it had been made for a well-known actress to wear at a premiere and had cost £1,000—and would I please keep my hands off clothes in this section as they were all priceless.

POCKET CARTOON by OSBERT LANCASTER



PLATFORM

Yet there was one Man, long long ago who travelled to a Mount, and gave to his few hundred hearers a political philosophy that has survived to this day, although mankind, in its arrogance, still refuses to accept it. Here were the main planks of his platform:

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory.

The Sermon on the Mount was not only an appeal to the Spirit but a political document of the utmost importance. When mankind has followed those precepts there has been progress. When mankind has rejected them there has been suffering, failure and darkness.

I cannot see the distant scene for more than a few steps, no matter how I gaze into the crystal. Some day, perhaps, the human race will realize that it is one family, one breed, and that peace on earth will only be attained when there is goodwill among men.

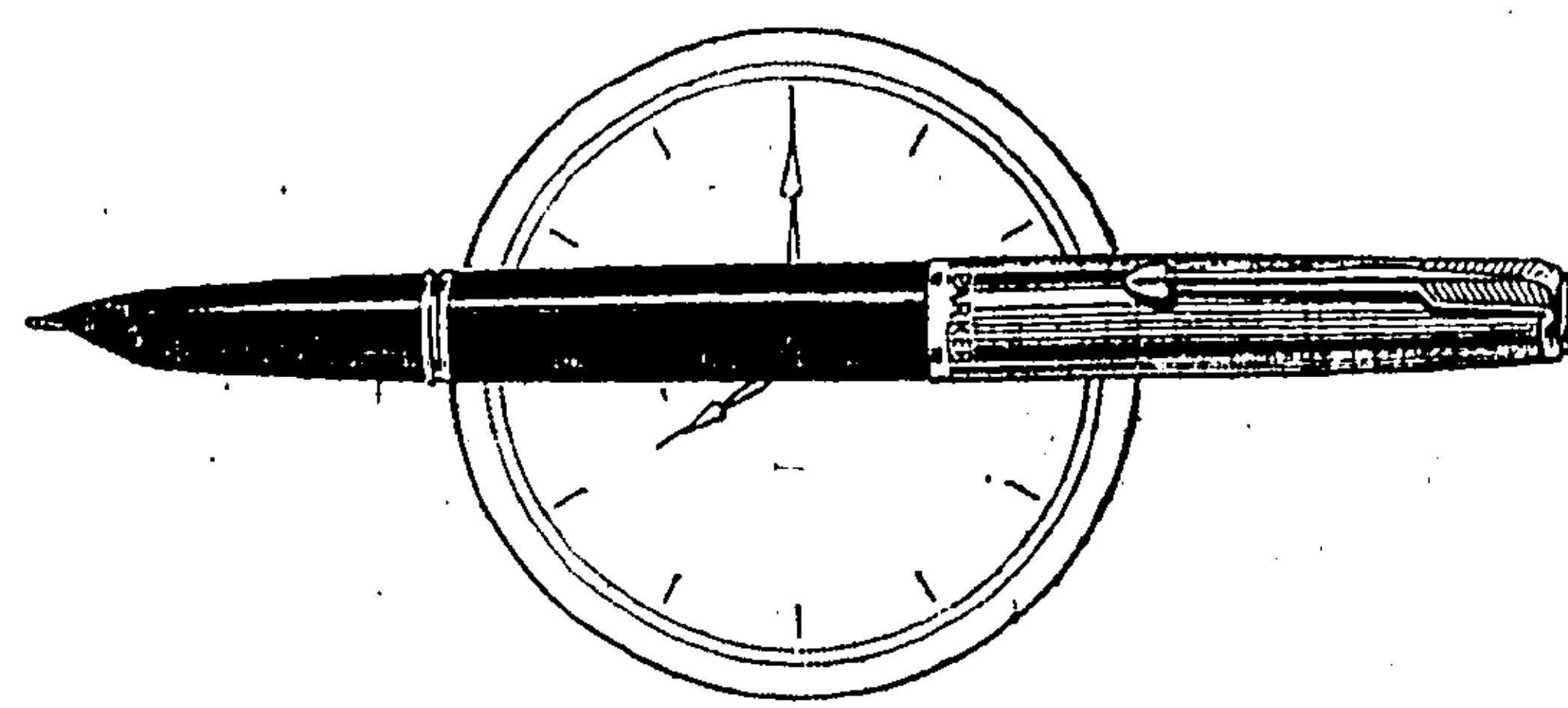
Until then we must hope and work and build, every man to his ability and every man to his conscience, for each of us is a creature of destiny, and each of us must play our part even if the world, as though history will never record well as Wagner, Beethoven, our names.

PROPHECY

Thus I foresee that in 1954 there will be a great desire in many territories that the British should withdraw into their little island and maintain a population of 50 millions on natural resources which could not possibly sustain more than 20 millions. Again with the spirit of prophecy upon me, I predict that the British will do no such thing.

Now let us look at the continent of Europe for a moment—that continent which has enriched and bedevilled the story of the human race almost from the beginning of time. Perhaps it is as well to remember that Europe is here to stay, no matter how often we may wish that it would drown itself in the sea.

In 1954 Germany will move violently towards its future without the least idea of what that future may be. Germany will give Luther to the world, as though history will never record well as Wagner, Beethoven, our names.



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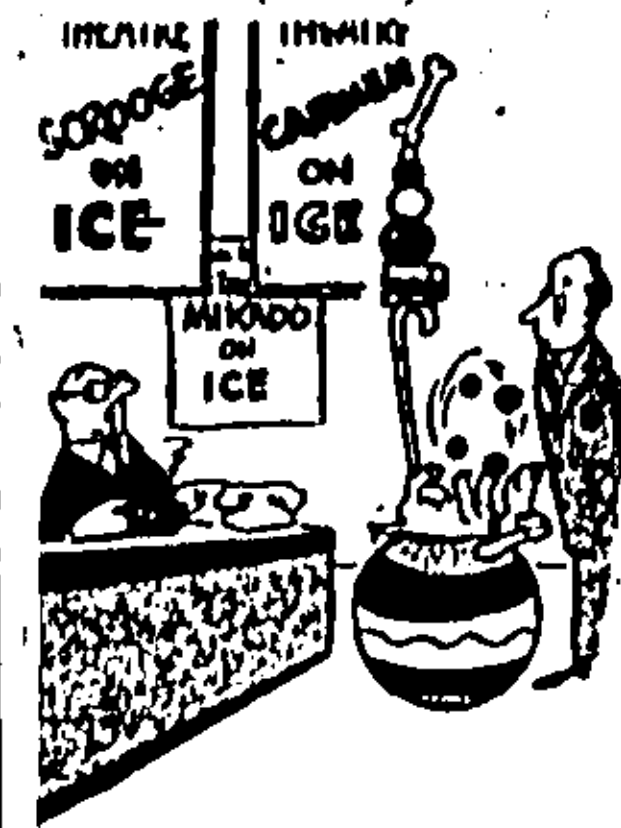
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ARTIE'S HEADLINE



"That's all very well—but can he skate?"

BARBS By HAL COCHRAN

It's hard to tell—golf is either good for the wind, or only long talkers play golf.

Putting on too much speed ahead is a good way to meet with reverses.

The tax collector is a fellow who can make any business pay.

When two live cheaper than one they feel that way.

Chestnut season is here again. Whose are you pulling out of the fire?

A chafing dish is just another name for a stuck-up frying pan.

Politicians always play to name names, and then wind up by calling them.

Statistics show that the average girl who leaves home is about 15. The average who stays home is past 60.

Why is it that moths never make the mistake of eating a patch?

An Ohio detective caught two crooks when they thought he was drunk and tried to rob him. Didn't know he was unloaded.

An educator says that most of us are smarter than we think. Try to convince your wife!

The average dream lasts five seconds, according to a doctor. Even with all the new types of make-up?

Asking a group of women who is the eldest is the same as calling for silence.

What you don't know hurts you most when you try to tell it.

A scientist says that plants make a noise while growing. We've heard that children do, too.

It's a wise woman who asks for what she can't have so she can compromise on what she wants.

A married man may change jobs but he's always working for the same people: the wife and kids!

In the wilds of Mexico they hunt lions with motor cars. Maybe because pedestrians are scarce.

Politicians seldom write their memoirs, possibly because they're afraid they'll misquote themselves.

When a girl worships the ground her husband walks on it may cover a lot of territory when hunting season is on.

Biologists devote a great deal of time to cell life while criminal courts devote too little.

Add smiles: as miserable as a near-sighted onion peeler.

Getting credit where credit is due is not so bad. The trouble comes when the credit is overdue.

Some cigarette lighters apparently were made for people who don't smoke.

Was the Doctor's journey (alone in a boat for 65 days without supplies) really necessary?

THE BOMBARD STORY, by Dr. Alain Bombard, Andre Douthet. 12s. 6d. 214 pages.

by GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON

DID Dr Bombard have to go? He is an intrepid Frenchman, with a well-developed scientific curiosity. It drove him to cross the Atlantic alone in a rubber dinghy with no food or water on board, save only a sealed box of emergency rations, which the doctor did not open.

He also took with him on his remarkable voyage a collection of literary classics and the score of two Bach Passions and 17 Beethoven quartets. As it turned out he had little time and less inclination for reading. It was more exciting to watch frigate birds and dolphins as they hunted flying fish in partnership.

RAW FISH

In the end, Bombard crossed the Atlantic from the Canaries to Barbados on a diet of salt water and raw fish. It took just 65 days and he lost four stone in weight. But did he really have to make the crossing?

He had a wonderful story to tell. He had demonstrated that shipwrecked sailors need never despair but should keep their spirits up by reflecting on the scientific truth that there are 200 times as many living organisms in a cubic foot of sea as in the same amount of earth.

He had disproved the ancient legend that men who drink salt water go raving mad. He had found that human beings, like whales can ward off scurvy by adding plankton to their diet.

But could not the doctor have found all these things out by staying at home and living on fish and salt water for a couple of months? That, it may be said, would not impress future seafarers in the same way as an actual ocean crossing without food supplies. But that is not the end of the story.

PREDECESSORS

Dr Bombard's experiment had already been made, although not voluntarily. In 1943 an American patrol boat in the South Atlantic picked up a small boat with three torpedeed sailors, Dominic Izzi (U.S. citizen), Nick Hodgendum and Cornelius van der Slot (Dutch).

They had been for 67 days (two more than Dr Bombard) without food, except the fish and birds they caught and rainwater

they collected. But if the Izzi-Hodgendum-van der Slot experiment had already proved it could be done, it does not, of course, detract from the courage and endurance of Dr Bombard any more than it diminishes the absorbing interest of his story.

After all, raw fish and salt water, far less substantial. And there was no lack of gloomy prophets when Bombard set off from Monaco on the first leg of his trip.

PREPARATIONS

An expert in life-saving told the doctor's wife, "You will never see your husband again. Insufficient preparations! He is going to be six weeks at sea and he does not even have a chamberpot."

On his monotonous diet, Bombard suffered from depression, lost his fingernails, the slightest bruise turned septic. His most frightening moment came when he jumped overboard to retrieve an inflated cushion and found that his sea-anchor had fouled so that the dinghy was sailing as fast as he could swim.

He engaged the anchor in time. After 53 days, the doctor met a Liverpool merchant ship and learned to his horror that he was 600 miles short of his estimated position. At that moment, he nearly threw in his hand.

However, after a hot meal which gave him the worst pains of the whole voyage he set out again, leaving with the captain a request that the BBC should play Bach's Third Brandenburg Concerto on Christmas Day.

INSTINCTS

This the BBC duly did, but by that time Bombard was ashore on the island of Barbados, where the welcome committee on the beach quickly proved that the acquisitive instincts of the old wreckers are still alive.

Bombard, self-marooned on the smallest desert island in history, had survived his ordeal and quickly recovered weight.

The story of his voyage cheerful, without excess of modesty, with a soft pedal on the grimmer side, is an excellent addition to the true adventure stories which, following in the wake of Kon-Tiki, have been so justly successful.

THE BRIDGES OF TOKO-RI.

By James A. Michener, Secker and Warburg. 7s. 6d. 136 pages.

JOURNALISM with a sense of mission; fiction with its eye on current events; an oversimplified view of the world; an over-dramatised version of its people—apply these qualities to an imaginary (or maybe half-imaginary) episode from the Korean war and you have The Bridges of Toko-Ri.

Vital to Communist supply lines, the nervously defended bridges must be shattered. Jet-bombers of the U.S. carrier Savo are assigned the desperate task. Michener tells their story in a hard, slangy idiom: graphic in its truculent way.

Harry Brubaker, a 28-year-old lawyer from Denver, Colorado, was alone in a spot he had never intended to defend in a war he had not understood. The Bridges of Toko-Ri is an angry protest against lack of understanding of that war among those who, unlike Brubaker, did not fight it.

CHURCHILL AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES. Edited by Charles Eade. Hutchinson. 25s. 528 pages.

CHARLES EADE had the great idea of gathering into one volume anecdotes and opinions of Winston Churchill from the men who have known him at different periods—from Harrow School onward—and seen him in different aspects.

Hitler the "arch-enemy," "I feel a deep disgust for this type of unscrupulous politician," etc. Shwinwell, the political opponent recalling him off every few sentences to the duty of criticising a man he manifestly likes.

Roosevelt, the arch friend—"He has a hundred ideas a day of which at least four are good."

Mrs Thompson, personal secretary: "He cannot tolerate paper clips and he simply abominates pins."

From many impressions something like a portrait emerges.

PLAYWRIGHT AT WORK. By John van Druten. Hamish Hamilton. 12s. 6d. 210 pages.

IF it were possible—but it is not—to learn how to write plays by taking good advice, what an important book this would be! Full of sense about the drama, it will recall to public memory the once-British author of Young Woodley.

The Savoy a la Melba

By J. W. TAYLOR

COINCIDENTAL to the recent Savoy Hotel share dispute is Sir Compton Mackenzie's latest book "The Savoy of London", from the pen of one who appreciates the good things of life and has a wide knowledge and keen insight of the London social scene. This story of one of the most famous hotels in the world, from its rise 64 years ago up to the present time, makes fascinating reading.

Seventy years ago Richard D'Oyle Carte spotted derelict land between the Strand and the Embankment and was minded to build a hotel there that would go one better than the next best in the world. By August 1889, the Savoy Hotel had been built and opened and was a wonder to all who saw and heard about it. For one thing, it was seven storeys high, a most unusual feature.

D'Oyle Carte astonished the builder by demanding the inclusion of seventy bathrooms, and the latter could not refrain from inquiry as to whether amphibians were going to stay there pointing out that the Rush Veto Hotel, built two years before at a cost of half a million, had only four bathrooms for its 500 guests.

Quite a daring feature at the Savoy was the introduction of electric light throughout the hotel. D'Oyle Carte being prompted in this by his wife, a woman who had taken a degree at London University, but nevertheless liked to see the art of living made as easy and comfortable as possible. Visitors were told that the light switch "was so placed that the light could be turned on or off without one having to get out of bed."

It was one of the most comfortable and elegant hotels in the world, eventually to become a London's leading hostelry, patronised alike by kings, princes, millionaires, the famous and not so famous, and the heavy responsibility of "catering for them was not the least of the anxieties to be borne by an always imperceptive management."

When D'Oyle Carte installed hydraulic lifts at the Savoy, they were not quite a novelty, but were regarded with some apprehension. The visitors were assured that the lifts, ready for use "at all hours of the day and

night," were "perfectly safe, their movement smooth, rapid and pleasant."

The Savoy has always been noted for its cuisine ever since the days when D'Oyle Carte set out to lure a wealthy London society into dining out more at restaurants. He therefore engaged, first to direct the restaurant, but eventually to control the whole of the Savoy, the famous Cesar Ritz. He in turn engaged Escoffier as chef de cuisine and the two laid the foundations of the Savoy's reputation for good food.

Escoffier invented many famous dishes, including the Peche Melba, after the famous singer. History relates that one night Melba gave a party at the Savoy and suggested peaches flambé to finish off the meal. She was a self-willed woman who usually had her way, as befitting a temperamental artist perpetually basking in the warmth of public affection.

Escoffier, however, had also a will of his own, and so far as his domain was concerned, his word was law. She could have peaches, but not hot. They would be served with ice-cream—and they were.

And so the author entertainingly dwells on Savoy days, past and present, and sketches a cavalcade of celebrated habitués, as well as the characters themselves, through the years of peace and of two wars. The Savoy happily survived bomb hits and blasts shocks during the last war.

PARADE

OLD SLOWPOKE D'wa in Jamaica, where it's nice to lean on a shovel in the warm sunshine, they have little use for mechanical monsters.

And the road menders have a particular loathing for the bulldozer and the steamroller. One of each can do the work of a score of men and jobs are tough to find.

But, this week, the roadmen's deep-throated laughter floated across the island.

Giant bulldozers, scurrying to finish the new "Queen's Highway," were just too big for the job. They broke the back of a bridge, a vital link in the main traffic artery.

BOOM Milk sales in Capetown are soaring. The dairies have turned out a skim-free, non-fattening kind in four colours with flavourings and sugar added.

Adults and children alike are queuing for it.

DETECTIVE Gerfard Glossier, 30-year-old self-styled "king of detectives" is languishing in the local gaol in Ferrand, France.

Glossier set up a correspondence course for private detectives; enrolled 300 housewives, factory workers and even piano tuners at £11 a throw.

But the court found him guilty of fraud and sentenced him to 10 months. Here is a sample of his doctrine:

"Wear false beards and other disguises. To prove adultery, take a photo of the couple in bed with a calendar over the bed showing the date."

The court just didn't think anybody ever slept under a calendar.

EVERY Dopey the fox terrier, was 21. His mistress, Mrs V. B. Young, of Durban, thought that was quite something—equivalent to a human age of 147.

So Dopey got a birthday present—a big cake crowned with 21 sausages. He wolfed the lot in a twinkling.

COSSARD THE Eugene Cossard was no efficient as a plumber's mate that he was promoted to rank and allowed to work on his own.

But householders began to complain. Eugene spent all his time in the cellars looking for leaks—and never found any.

Last week Paris police found out why. Eugene was busy sampling the wine. They reported that he was a real connoisseur. After tasting them all, he took only the best.

A court sent him to gaol for six months.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE

Insomnia Blues

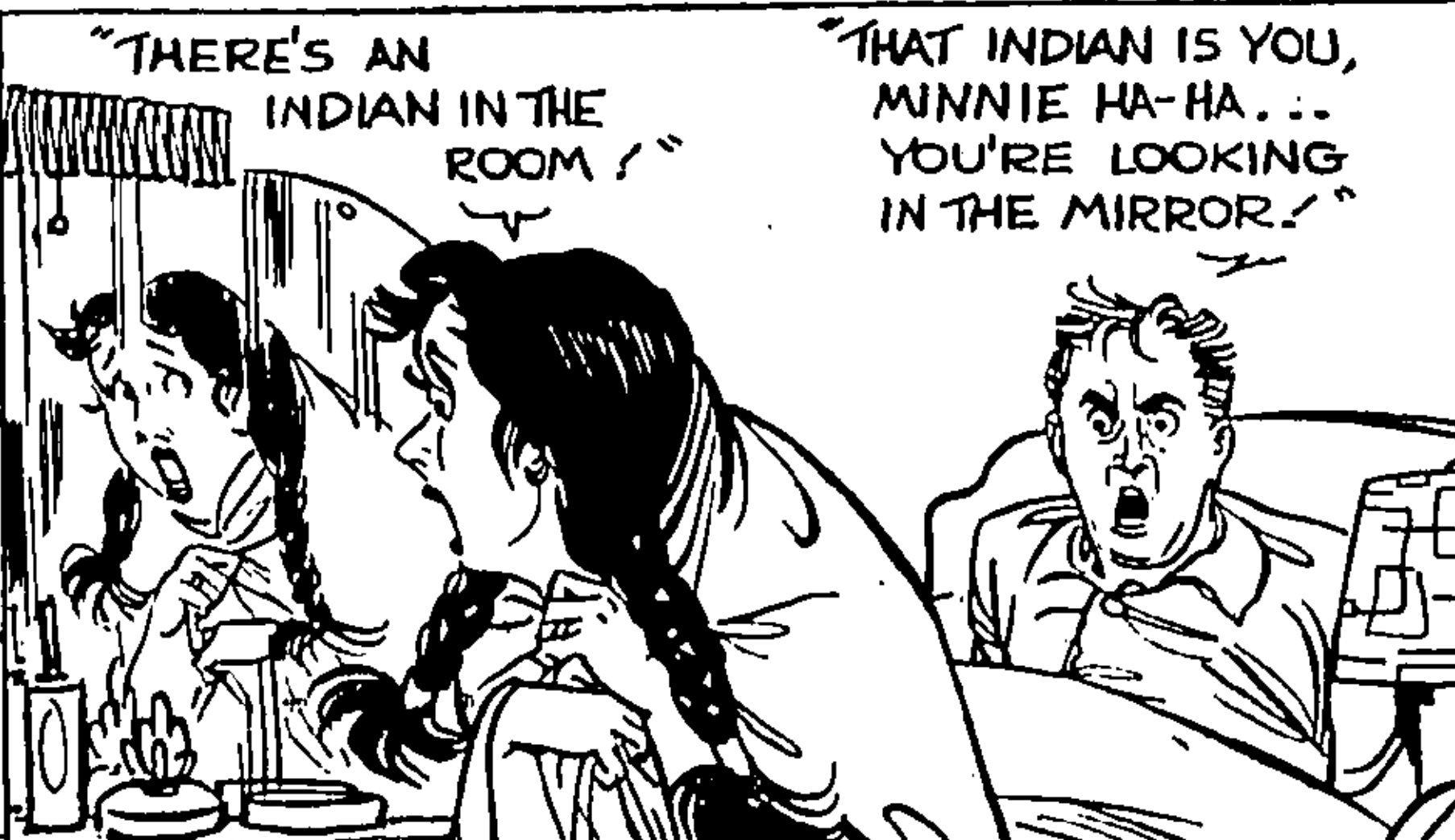
BY HARRY WEINERT



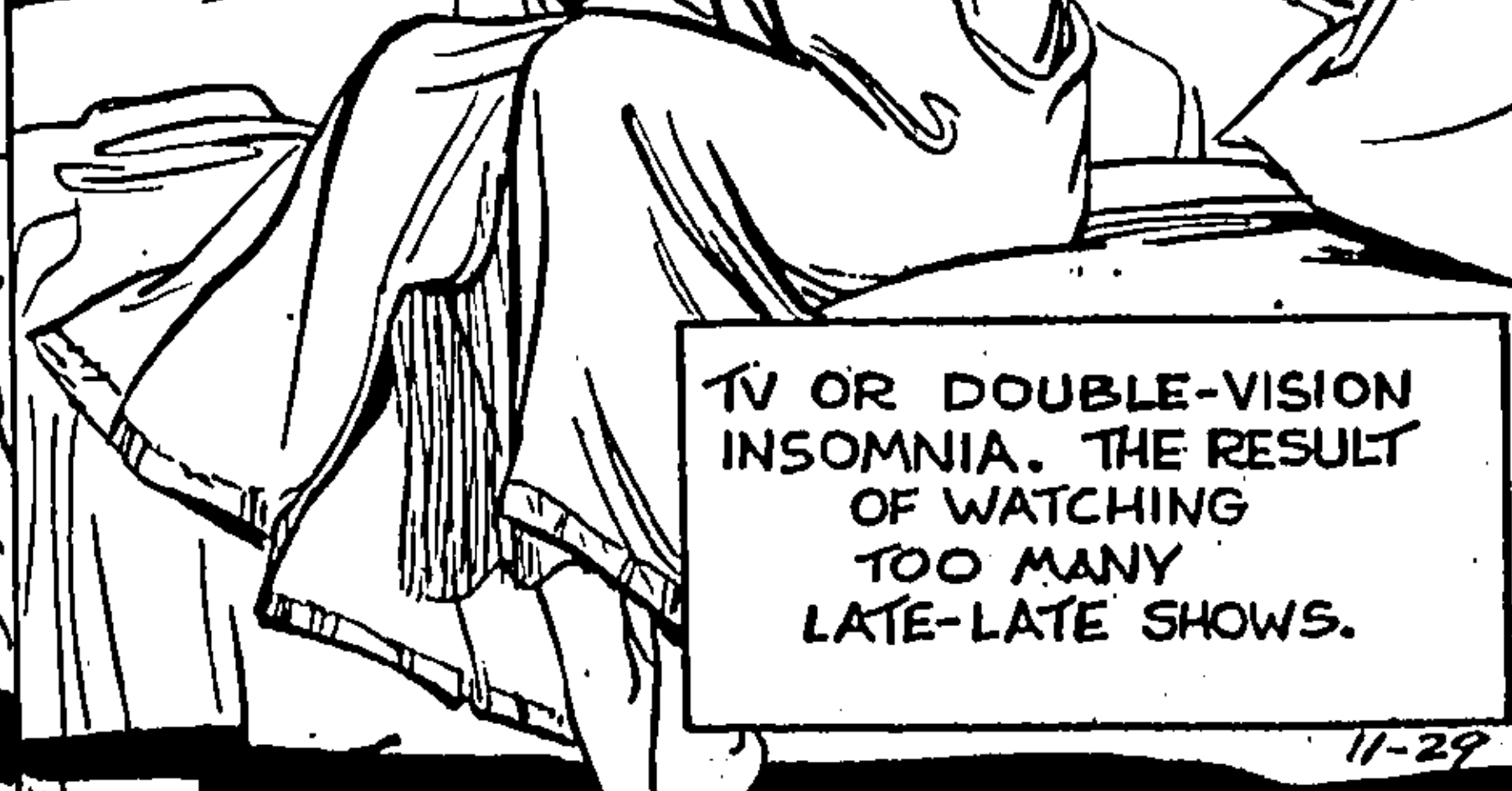
THE TYPE OF NO-SHUT-EYE DUE TO CLEANING OUT THE REFRIGERATOR.



A NIGHT OUT WITH THE BOYS HAS BEEN KNOWN TO BRING ON INSOMNIA.



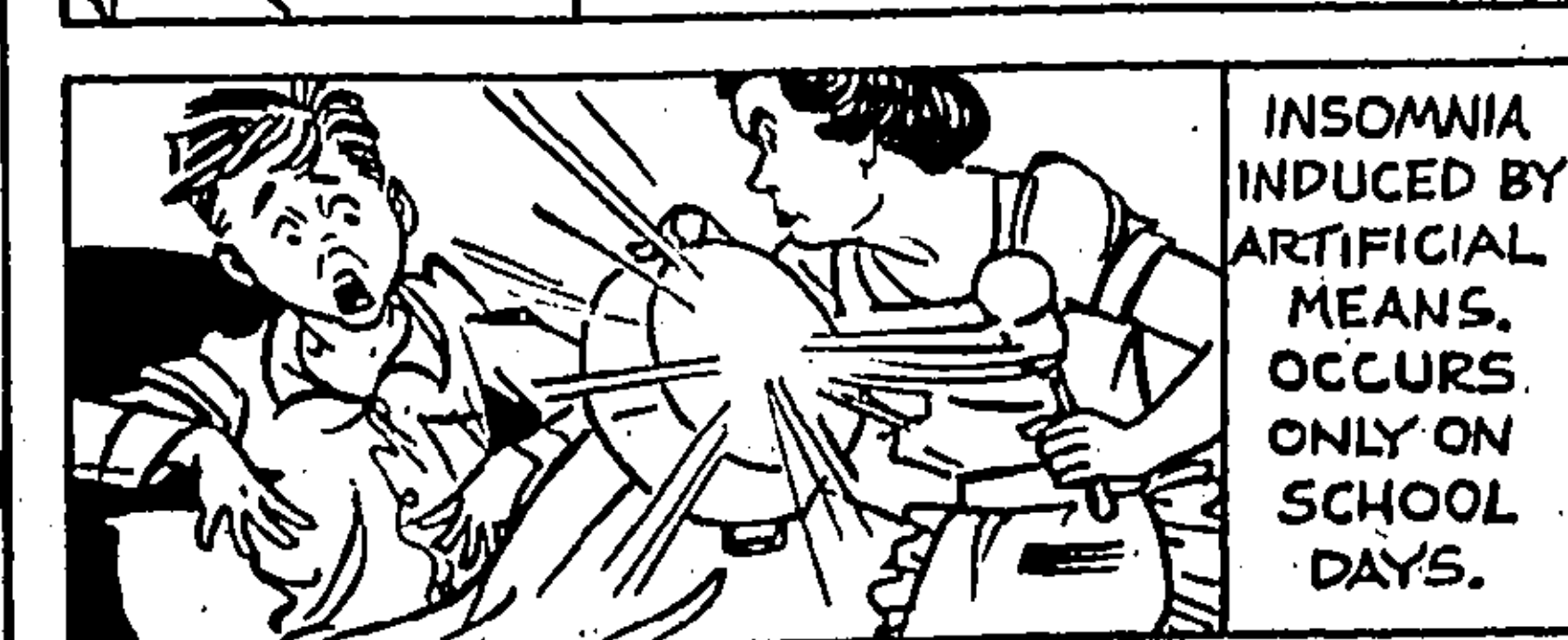
THERE'S AN INDIAN IN THE ROOM.



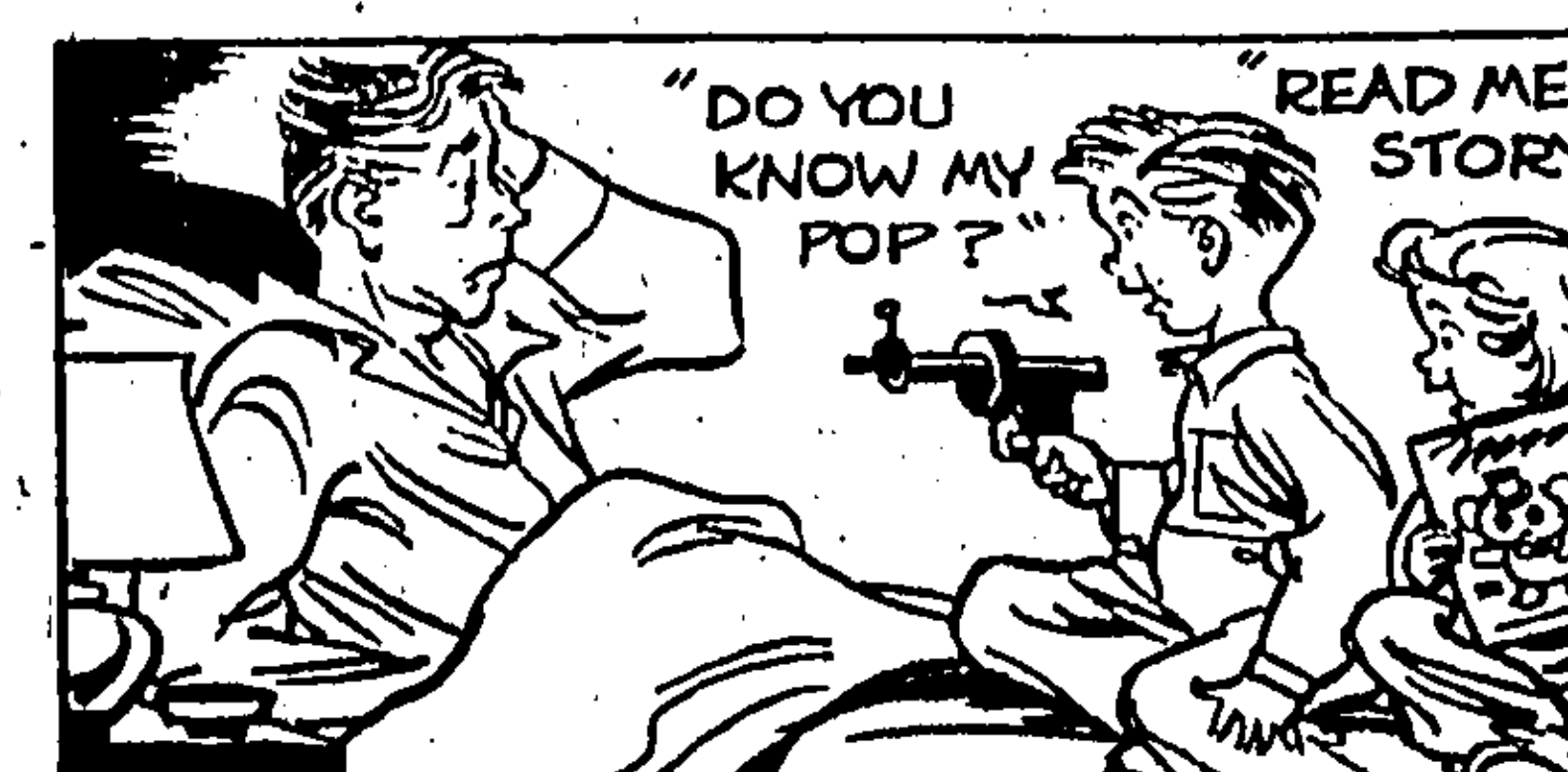
TV OR DOUBLE-VISION INSOMNIA. THE RESULT OF WATCHING TOO MANY LATE-LATE SHOWS.



COOKING UP A BAD CASE OF INSOMNIA FOR THE FOLKS DOWNSTAIRS.



INSOMNIA INDUCED BY ARTIFICIAL MEANS, OCCURS ONLY ON SCHOOL DAYS.



SOMETIMES IT IS DIFFICULT TO SLEEP IN A STRANGE BED—ESPECIALLY AFTER SIX A.M.



INSOMNIA CAUSED BY ROOM-MATE WHO IS FRESH AS A DAISY AFTER POUNDING HER EAR FOR HOURS.



GALLOPING INSOMNIA. MOST ATTACKS OCCUR AFTER READING REPORTS OF H-BOMBS, STRIKES AND PROSECUTION OF INCOME-TAX CHISELERS.

Your Radio Listening For Next Week In Detail—A "China Mail" Feature

Pegasus Takes The Air Over Radio Hongkong

On Saturday afternoon Pegasus—the combined team of soccer players from Oxford and Cambridge Universities—meets a selection of Colony players at Caroline Hill football ground. Brig Young, Radio Hongkong's sports commentator, will be there to broadcast a description of the second half of the game from 4.30 onwards.

The fact that Pegasus comes to the Colony as a football eleven, however, doesn't mean that their interest is confined to that field: eleven is also a happy number for cricket. So, on Sunday, the visitors are taking on the Hongkong Cricket Club for a one-day match. Again, Brig Young will be on the spot, at the Cricket Club Pavilion, to describe the play. He'll be on the air for three short fifteen-minute commentaries during the day: at 12.15 p.m., 1 o'clock, and then again at 4.30.

Many listeners will recall the BBC's reminiscent programme "1952: The Commentator Looks Back", at the beginning of this year. This week there is a programme in the General Overseas Service which follows much the same lines, called "1953: A Year to Remember".

And what a year! The Coronation, the Everest Expedition, the Ashes, and a hundred other excitements. On Thursday night, at 10.15 Radio Hongkong is broadcasting a recording of the programme; then you'll be able to have the pages of the non-sporting diary of the year's outside broadcasts turned back to remind you of some of those you may not have heard or would like to hear again.

MUSIC

On Wednesday night, at 8.30, Radio Hongkong has pleasure in introducing to Hongkong listeners one of the finest musicians in this part of the world—Professor Julio Esteban Anguita. Director of the Conservatory of Music at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Professor Anguita has given many piano recitals over the air in Manila and on the concert stage there. He has appeared, too, with such internationally famous musicians as Pierre Fournier and Helen Traubel.

On Wednesday his programme for Radio Hongkong is one of Spanish music for the piano, and includes "The Maiden and the Nightingale" by Granados, "Evocation" by Albeniz, and the Ritual Fire Dance of de Falla.

DRAMA

John Mills, the film star, plays young Marlow in the BBC production of "She Stoops to Conquer" which will be heard over Radio Hongkong on Wednesday at 9 o'clock. This comedy by Oliver Goldsmith was first produced at Covent Garden in 1773, and has remained one of the most popular plays in the English language ever since. The cast includes Charles Leno, Anthony Kearey, and Marguerite Westbury.

(Broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles per second and on 8.52 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band).

Today

12.30 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
12.32 MUSIC. SCRAPBOOK.
Under Don Lindenbaum (H. Felix). Walter Fenske and his Orchestra (Weingartner)—Walter Fenske and his Orchestra.
My song goes round the world (Jimmy Kennedy)—Hans May (Richard Crooks (tenor)).
Melodie (Hans May)—Walter Fenske and his Orchestra.
Smilin' through (Henn)—Jeanette MacDonald (Sop.).
A little love, a little kiss (from "Smilin' through") (Henn)—Jeanette MacDonald (Sop.).
Nurturka (Lohar)—Walter Fenske and his Orchestra.

1.00 TIME SIGNAL.
Modley of Waltzes by Hans Schneider (Op. 2)—Members of the Vienna State Opera Orchestra, conducted by the New Queen's Hall Orchestra.
Concertino in F Minor (Weber, Op. 70)—Robert Casadesu (Piano) and the Orchestre Symphonique (of Paris) cond. by Eugene Hign.
FORCES' PROGRAMME.

2.00 THE FORCES' SHOW (RECORDED LONDON RELAY).

3.00 STUDIO: HOSPITAL REQUESTS.
Presented by Theresa.
4.00 STUDIO: FORCES' CHOICE.
Presented by Theresa.
4.30 ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.
Hongkong Selected v. Pegasus.

Sunday

10.00 a.m. TIME SIGNAL AND PROGRAMME SUMMARY.

10.02 FOOTBALL RESULTS.

10.03 MORNING MELODY.

The Melancholy Strife.

Whispering Hope (Alice Hawthorne). Abide with me (Lily—Munk).

10.04 CRIME IN OUR BUSINESS.

A Feature programme dealing with the fight against crime in the North of England (East Met. Last in Liverpool).

10.05 TIME SIGNAL AND PROGRAMME SUMMARY.

10.06 CRIME IN OUR BUSINESS.

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10.39 CRIME IN OUR BUSINESS.

A Feature programme dealing with the fight against crime in the North of England (East Met. Last in Liverpool).

1.00 FIRST CRICKET MATCH.

With Bernard Brown, Barbara Kelly, Benny Lee, Pearl Carr, Ronald Fletcher, Nat Temple and his Orchestra.

1.30 STUDIO: HOME REQUESTS PRESENTED BY JEAN.

4.30 CRIME IN OUR BUSINESS.

A Feature programme dealing with the fight against crime in the North of England (East Met. Last in Liverpool).

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No. 200: Bright the Vision, Tune.

Laurel Den (R. Redhead) sung by the BBC Choral Society, Organist G. Thibault-Bell.

No. 176: Light up your heads, Tune.

Cecilia Victoria (M.B. Foster)—sung by the BBC Choral Society, Organist G. Thibault-Bell.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

11.30 CLOSE DOWN.

1.00 CRIME IN OUR BUSINESS.

A Feature programme dealing with the fight against crime in the North of England (East Met. Last in Liverpool).

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THE CHINA MAIL'S WEEKEND LOCAL SPORTS PARADE

TODAY'S RUGGER

By "PAK LO"

This afternoon's games, of which there are two at the Club Ground at Happy Valley, promise some interesting rugger for the fans. The first will be between the Army and the Navy, commencing at 3 p.m., and this will be followed by a game between Club "A" and "B".

The first game should give some idea of the Army's chances in the second round of the Pentagonal, because on present form they are the only team capable of beating the Navy, but as they have now lost the services of Gerrard they are weaker than usual.

However, this does not mean they will lose, as they have not played the Navy for some time, and have improved throughout the season. It will be interesting to watch the struggle for supremacy between the Army and the Navy. The Army's three new players, who have not yet played, may now have that spark of brilliance that Gerrard injected into them, but they must not be underestimated.

There have been quite a few changes in the Navy team and Davies moves from centre to scrum half in place of Soames, while Nicholson and Williams join the backs. The front row has one change, where a newcomer to the Colony, Annandale, is given a trial. With the various switches, this team has a new look but it keeps up its reputation it should win.

MORE EXCITING

This second game will be even more exciting as both the 1st and 2nd XV's are out to prove themselves the better. There have been some changes in both teams.

Russell, the 2nd XV Captain, is promoted to the 1st, at what may be an odd moment, but for this game it would have been fairer to the 1st to have left him there.

In theory, the 1st XV should win, but it is possible that they will suffer a setback, as the "B" team is fairly strong this season and has more spirit than the 1st XV. The 1st has the greater weight in the scrum, and should therefore win more of the set pieces, and with Craig behind them the three can be sure of a good service. The three are fast and if their passing has improved, only hard tackling by the 1st will stop them, and this is one of the 1st's weaker points. Behind the scrum, the 1st have a fairly fast set of backs and if they get a chance can be very dangerous. If both sides jump in the lineouts and tackle hard and low, this will indeed be a game worth watching. However, the 1st XV should win, but I think by a very small margin.

MANCHESTER UNITED v. LIVERPOOL



Underwood, the new Liverpool goalkeeper, dives out of the goal in the game against Manchester City, but Twentyman (No. 5) clears the ball down field. This was one goal that was not scored against Liverpool, but United went on to win 5-1.—Express Photo.

WEEK-END SOFTBALL

It's A Fantastic Season For The Pandas

By "SNOOPER"

On Sunday, the best game on the programme is the tough return game between Jackie Wei's Pandas and Frank Poon's Chinese Athletic Association, and the Pandas, facing the prospect of being left behind in the Pennant race, are given a great deal less than a 50-50 chance of scoring a win if they continue to be hesitant, unbalanced and indifferent.

This is a fantastic season for Wei's Pandas. Their two brilliant victories over the champion Braves and the Saints early in the season have brought them into a position to garner the Senior "A" Pennant for the first time. But it must have come close to a shock when the Pandas dropped a vital game to the Chinese Athletic Association.

Then came the heartbreaker. The Pandas, last week-end, were miserably trounced by the USS Cockrell by 9-2. It was the misfortune of the Pandas to find the initial win in peak form to score their initial win of the season.

The Pandas will be the first to agree that they have themselves to blame for having underestimated the sailors. The many fans could sense the defensive uncertainty in the Pandas' ranks right from the start and added to this uncertainty was the fact pitcher Wei and his colleagues lacked inspiration.

To say that the Pandas have almost allowed the Pennant to slip from their grasp after a magnificent start would be a masterpiece of understatement. They literally have thrown it away by taking first the CAA squad too lightly and then underestimating the hitherto winless USS Cockrell. Two costly mistakes made at crucial junctures of the season were sufficient to reduce substantially their chance for the Pennant this season, and another setback will see them out of the Championship race.

Moundsman Jackie Wei, tried for the eighth time, is still recognised as one of the top pitchers in the Colony but he was sorely tried in the success hoped for in the tussle against the USS Cockrell. Overworked in the game against the Hongkong Athletic Association, Wei strained himself to save his team from defeat.

The strain proved too much for him and he was completely out of the picture against the Cockrell the next day. But Wei is expected to go about his business in style against the CAA and a victory for the Pandas will once again principally depend on his performance.

Only player in the whole Pandas' team who did excellent work last week was shortstop Y.S. Liang, who strove with might and main but could not win the game for his team by sheer individual brilliance. The fielding weaknesses of the Pandas were fully exposed and unless the fielders put up a better show, they will taste another bitter defeat.

Frank Poon's Chinese Athletic Association, out to prove that their first win over the Pandas, was no fluke, will really get down to business in this return encounter, and much will depend on industrious pitcher P.C. Wong who will have the support of K.K. Sit behind the plate. It is expected that the CAA batters will devote much time to discouraging pitcher Wei's fast balls and will concentrate on bunt-attempts to win.

In the infield, the CAA will have C. M. Tsang, Seldon Ma and K.R. "Rabbit" Leung, three of the leading Chinese softballers in the Colony.

Both the Pandas and the CAA still have a fighting Championship race as the up-to-date standings below show:

Senior "A" League

Team	P	W	L	Average
Saints	8	7	1	.875
Pandas	8	6	2	.750
CAA	8	6	2	.750
Braves	7	5	2	.716
Navy	7	3	4	.430
Warriors	8	3	5	.375

SCAA 8 2 0 .250
Rexes 8 1 7 .125

ACID TEST
A team consistently in the picture in the Ladies' League is Virgie Ribeiro's Wahoos "B" and they will be given an acid test against Benita Remedios' Colleens in the feature Sunday game.

Although the Wahoos' juniors have shown tremendous enthusiasm, my vote still goes to the steeper and more experienced Colleens' squad of ballplayers led by "Bunny" Remedios herself. Prominent in the Colleens' camp are Sheila Silva, Antonia Remedios, Sally Sun, Alda Oliveira, Dolly Norman and Pamela Hall.

The true value of the Wahoos' "B" performance remains to be seen as they have to date beaten only weaker teams in the circuit. But there is little doubt that Virgie Ribeiro, Evelyn Alonzo, Angelina D'Aquino, Myra Cruz and Valerie Fernandez look good for an upset victory.

In the other game, Terry Neronha's champion Wahoos should prove too good for South China and should romp home by a comfortable margin.

Chan King-yin Wins Kowloon "Marathon"

South China Athletic Association's Chan King-yin won the annual New Year's Day International Harrier Road Race over a course of about 6½ miles through the streets of Kowloon yesterday. The winning time was 38 minutes 34.8 seconds. Second was Gnr. R.J. Aden, the surprise winner of the HKAAA Cross Country Race last month, who trailed King-yin all the way and finished 15 yards behind. SCAA's Lee Kam-hung was third, 70 yards behind, followed by McHugh, Lee Tak-wah, Hudson, Au Chung-sing, Leung Wei-hung, Chan Sap-yau and Lam Chun.

SATURDAY SOCCER SPOT

A BACKWARD GLANCE AT 1953 AND A GUESS AT WHAT LIES AHEAD

By I. M. MacTAVISH

I can think of no better way of starting my first column of the New Year than by presenting appropriate seasonal greeting to our football fraternity. To the players I wish success on the playing field and fair treatment off it, to our over-criticised officials I wish tranquillity in all their knotty administrative affairs, to the thousands of fans I wish good football entertainment and fair return for their money that is the life blood of the game, and to that most maligned body of men, the referees, I wish a super abundance of wisdom and second sight, and of course, fair judgment from the critics who would probably look rather tragic if their respective positions were reversed.

We have now reached the half-way mark in the season and this seems an ideal time to stop and, in reminiscent mood, take first a backward glance and then, with a touch of the speculative, have a guess at what lies ahead.

Behind us there is a lot of fog and smoke that has hung round from the not so pleasant features. There has been much unrest, discontent, and due to ground difficulties, an unavoidable fixture confusion. Criticism and counter-criticism has been swift and one of the most unpleasant recollections revolves around the unimaginative decisions of the authorities in connection with the early season approval of the different grounds.

There will always linger with many doubt about the dogmatic decisions which prevented the Army from using the Sookunpoo grounds. I know that the military authorities were willing to spend the money to recondition the stands but they were given no encouragement as 'mashed stands' were out as a matter of policy. The present stands at the ends of the Club Stadium are mute monuments to the inconsistency of that policy!

We have watched too the battles of the richer clubs and their policy of touring in the Colony playing season. We have heard criticism of chosen players who through no fault of their own have been selected for the show games of our season, criticism so unfair that it has driven good men to withdraw from the selections without having had a chance to show that the selectors were right, and the immature critics wrong in their pre-match judgment.

BIGGEST SURPRISE
On the playing field the failure of the star-studded Kitchee side to hit the high spots has been the biggest surprise so far.

However, among all the snog we must not allow ourselves to forget that much has also been accomplished, some grand games have been seen, and several fine new players have flashed upon the scene.

Whatever else is forgotten, we shall remember that this was the season that saw the opening of two fine new arenas—arenas that are comparable in standard, if not in size, with those at other big sports centres. The Hongkong Football Club and South China FC are to be congratulated for their enterprise and foresight and all who are connected with the game owe them a big debt.

We remember with pleasure the visit from the Djurgarden Club with its many star players. And we recall with satisfaction the thrilling Poppy Day game, the titanic clash of KMB and Army, the early exuberance of the Royal Navy side, the exciting China-Great Britain encounter, the magnificent fight back by Club in their tussle with South China at Caroline Hill, and then we try hard to forget the shocking display of misguided effort and uncontrolled temper in the recent Sing Tao-South China meeting.

New stars have brightened our game and it is difficult to decide whether the top honours here should be given to brilliant young Ho Cheung-yau or to fearless, safe-as-the-bank-Gran-ger, and of course we must not forget MacLaren of the RAF or Falconer who has done so much to help recapture past glories for the Club.

THE FUTURE?
And what of the future? In a playing scene South China

seem well on the way to retaining their laurels and, as they are so far undefeated, it seems that only a sensational loss of form could upset these chances. The programme ahead of them is hard and tough as they are behind with their fixtures, but apart from their slip-up against Club there is no suggestion that they cannot maintain their position.

Grand old St. Joseph's are finding it hard going these days and unless they can recruit new blood there is a danger that they are going to find themselves outclassed in the 1st Division. Next to South China the best prospects seem to rest between KMB, Sing Tao, and Army with probably Kitchee and Eastern in the outsider berths.

One of the most interesting points about our football is that many knowledgeable folks are forecasting a big revival by Club. This, if it materialises, will be all for the good of local football in general for I am sure that everyone would welcome the 'Blue and Whites' back to their rightful position among the top notchers of our competitions.

SOMETHING MISSING

For a long time now I have felt that there was something missing in local football affairs and after a lot of consideration I have come to the conclusion that it can be summed up in the words 'lack of showmanship'.

One of the most outstanding features of big football matches in other parts of the world is that a big game is a big occasion. The game is presented in an environment that is stimulating and exciting and the spectators are entertained in the waiting time before the match begins.

How flat and dismal by comparison are the pre-match minutes here in Hongkong, how devoid of showmanship are the organisers and planners! In this Colony there is an abundance of talented battle physical culturists, youth movements of many different types. With just a little imagination on the part of the big match planners we could have some excellent pre-match and interval entertainment.

I cannot believe that the coffers are so low that the expenditure involved in such an entertainment would be crippling. Why not appoint a committee member to look after this side of affairs. It would be work that would really be appreciated.

THE PRESENT

Whatever the past and whatever the future, the present is full of good things as far as the fans are concerned. The programme this week-end is brimful of attractive football fixtures and the real worry of the football enthusiast will be how to make the dollars and cents cover everything.

The programme is as follows:—

TODAY
Pegasus vs. Hongkong Selection at Caroline Hill, 3.30 p.m.
TOMORROW
Police vs. Kwong Wah at Boundary St., 4 p.m.
RAF vs. South China at Caroline Hill, 4 p.m.
Eastern vs. KMB at Club Stadium, 4 p.m.

CAA vs. Navy at Navy Ground, 4 p.m.
Club vs. St. Joseph's at Sookunpoo, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY

Pegasus vs. Combined Chinese at Caroline Hill, 3.30 p.m.

The show games against Pegasus are certain to provide us with a lot of good entertainment and I have a special inclination towards their game with the Combined Chinese being one well worth seeing.

I do not imply by this that I expect the game against the Hongkong Selection to fall short of expectations, but somehow I feel that whatever the line-up of the Chinese team that does take the field against Pegasus it will make a very determined effort to snatch a victory.

The League programme has two highlights—the meetings of South China and RAF, and Eastern versus KMB. The Braves had a very bad game against Kwong Wah but I suggest that you should forget about that and rather remember their fighting display against KMB on a huge ground a couple of weeks ago. The form tip is a victory for the Champions.

Eastern shook-up Kitchee recently, but I think that on this occasion they will find the determined Braves too strong for them. In the other games Police should beat Kwong Wah, Club should take two points from St. Joseph's, while the Navy-CAA tussle may well end with the honours even.

This week's Talking Point:
We now have two fine stadiums and I would suggest to the officials of both of these that they can render a great service to the football public if they could arrange to announce the teams over a public address system just before each game. The announcements should be in both English and Chinese. Recently I heard a player who was sitting near me in the stand being harshly—but wrongly—criticised for 'his' play on the field! Once or twice it has also been obvious from reports that even the press had not been informed of late team changes.

HONGKONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

To co-ordinate the activities of voluntary welfare organisations, and to disseminate knowledge and practice of social welfare work.

Information will be gladly supplied by the Secretary, Office: 405, China Building, Tel. 21706.

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Sails from Vancouver Jan. 19th
Sails from Seattle Jan. 20th

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HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

M.S. "KIELDRECHT"

Loading 6th Jan. Sailing 7th Jan.

for
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ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG &
BREITEN.

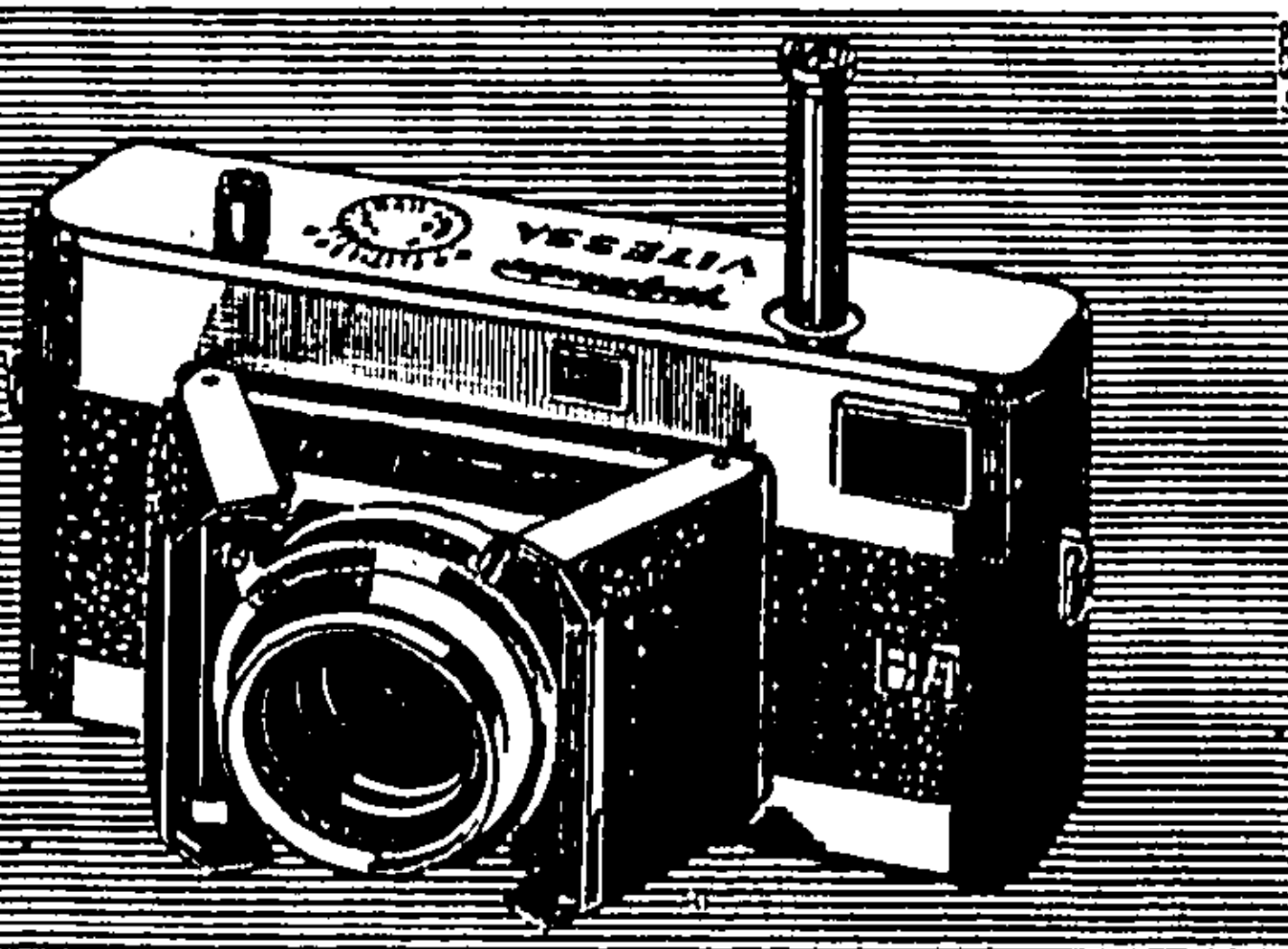
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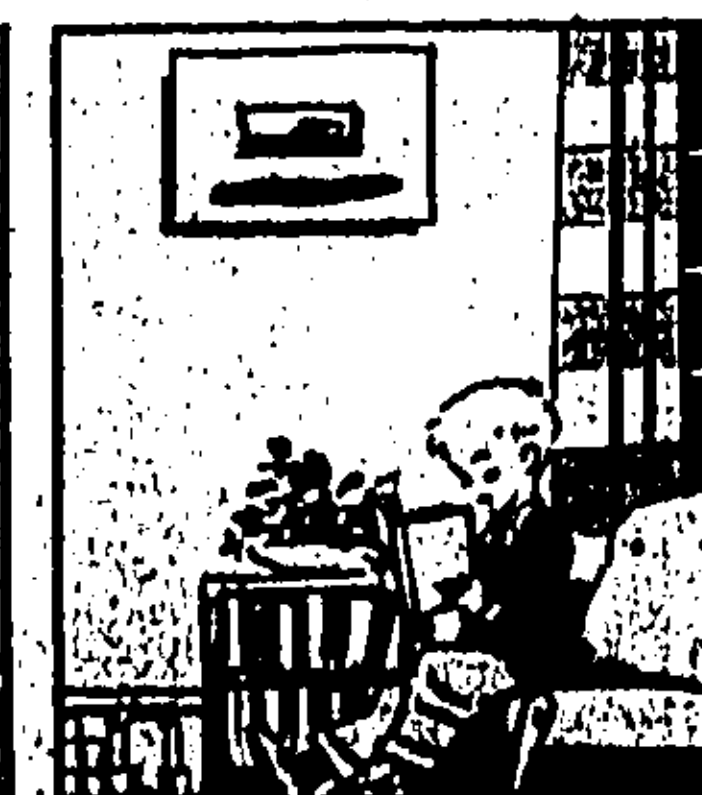
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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO
 "SHENGKING" ... Keelung ... 5 p.m. 2nd Jan.
 "PETER REED" ... Mirt, Sib, & Kuching ... 4 p.m. 4th Jan.
 * Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM
 "PAKHOT" ... Shanghai ... a.m. 3rd Jan.
 "HUPEH" ... Tientsin & Tsingtao ... 3rd Jan.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO
 "TAIPING" ... Kure & Kobe ... 9th Jan.
ARRIVALS FROM
 "TAIPING" ... Australia & Manila ... 6th Jan.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

Ship	Route	Leaves	Arrives
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.	6th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.	14th Jan.
"CLYTONES"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Jan.	23rd Jan.
"ASTYANAX"	Genoa, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London & Hamburg	24th Jan.	25th Jan.
"PYRRIUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Feb.	6th Feb.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Ship	Route	Leaves	Arrives
S. "ASTYANAX"	Liverpool	Sailed	8th Jan. 1954
G. "PYRRIUS"	do	Sailed	13th Jan. 1954
S. "CLYTONES"	do	do	25th Jan. 1954
G. "ASTYANAX"	do	do	28th Jan. 1954
S. "AGAPENOR"	3rd Jan.	do	7th Feb. 1954
G. "PELEUS"	7th Jan.	do	13th Jan. 1954
S. "ATTEMEDON"	18th Jan.	do	22nd Feb. 1954
G. "ATREUS"	24th Jan.	do	28th Feb. 1954

Q. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool, S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

Ship	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
"AGAMEMNON"	Sailed	19th Jan.	19th Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	do	do	28th Jan.
"DONA ALICIA"	do	do	10th Feb.
"MUNSTER CASTLE"	15th Jan.	6th Feb.	7th Mar.

SAILING FOR NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL.

Ship	Leaves	Sails
"AJAX"	4th Jan.	5th Jan.
"JAINAN"	19th Jan.	20th Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb.	18th Feb.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Departs	Arrives
HK-Singapore	10:00 a.m. Monday	10:00 a.m. Tuesday
HK-Hongkong-Singapore	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	9:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK-Manila-Singapore	6:00 a.m. Wednesday	6:00 a.m. Thursday
HK-Hongkong-Singapore	7:00 a.m. Thursday	7:00 a.m. Friday

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

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Barber Line

FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS

m.v. "TUNGUSHA" ... 9th Jan.
 m.v. "TAIWAN" ... 9th Feb.

Barber Wilhelmsen Line TO PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COAST PORTS via JAPAN

* m.v. "FERNFIELD" ... Loading Hongkong ... 9th Jan.
 m.v. "TUNGUSHA" ... 20th Jan.
 Accepting cargo on through bills of lading for Transshipment to South America, Caribbean and West Indian Ports.
 * Calls Baltimore direct.

Australia West Pacific Line



To Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne via Sandakan and Rabaul

m.v. "CITRO" ... arriving daylight 3rd A-3

FROM AUSTRALIAN PORTS

m.v. "CITRO" ... 11th Jan.
m.v. "ARON" ... 30th Jan.

N. Y. K.

For Singapore, Penang, Aden, Suez, Port Said, Alexandria, Genoa, Marseilles, Casablanca, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg.

m.v. "AKITA MARU" ... 5/7th Jan

Tanks Available For Bulk Oil

PERSIAN GULF

* m.v. "SHUNGO MARU" ... 3rd Jan.
via Singapore, Straits, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Basrah, Khorramshahr and Kuwait.

CALCUTTA

* m.v. "DAISEI MARU No. 1" ... 5th Jan
via Singapore, Straits, Rangoon.

FROM EUROPEAN PORTS

m.v. "ARIMA MARU" ... 15th Jan.

FROM CALCUTTA

* m.v. "HIRO MARU" ... 18th Jan.
For Moji, Kobe, Osaka, Hiroshima & Yokohama.

Lloyd Triestino

TO SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, KARACHI, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES & GENOA

Arrives ... Sails ...
 m.v. "ASIA" ... 25th Feb. ... 27th Feb.
 m.v. "VICTORIA" ... 29th Mar. ... 31st Mar.
 m.v. "ASIA" ... 25th Apr. ... 27th Apr.
 (Genoa/Hongkong—26 days. Hongkong/Genoa—27 days.
 Accepting cargo on through bills of lading to Mediterranean and Atlantic Ports. Also East, South and West African Ports.

As from January 1, 1954, revised fares will be applicable for new bookings.

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"VICTORIA"	Jan. 22	Feb. 1	Feb. 12
"ASIA"	Feb. 27	Mar. 4	Mar. 25
"VICTORIA"	Mar. 28	Apr. 2	Apr. 23
"ASIA"	Apr. 27	May 2	May 23
"VICTORIA"	May 28	June 2	June 23
"ASIA"	June 27	July 2	July 23
"VICTORIA"	July 27	Aug. 2	Aug. 23

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ARRIVALS

"WINGSANG" ... Keelung ... 9 a.m. 4th Jan.
 "CHOWANG" ... Keelung & Straits ... 9 a.m. 5th Jan.
 "TAKANG" ... Keelung ... 9 a.m. 10th Jan.
 "HIEWANG" ... Sandakan ... 10th Jan.

SAILINGS

"WINGSANG" ... Keelung ... Noon 6th Jan.
 "CHOWANG" ... Keelung ... 4 p.m. 6th Jan.
 "TAKANG" ... Singapore, Penang & Calcutta ... 4 p.m. 6th Jan.
 "HIEWANG" ... Jesselton, Labuan & Sandakan ... Noon 12th Jan.

Cargo accepted on through bills of lading for KUCHING, KUDAT, JERSEY, LABUAN, TAWAU, LABAD-DATU & SANDAKAN via Sandakan

AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE

ARRIVALS

"EASTERN SAGA" ... Japan ... Duoy A-11 in Port
 "EASTERN GLOBE" ... Fremantle, Aden, Melbourne, Port Kembla, Syd., Manila ... 9th Jan.

SAILINGS

"EASTERN SAGA" ... Port Moresby, Syd., Aden, Melbourne ... 2nd/3rd/4th Jan.
 "EASTERN STAR" ... Fremantle, Aden, Melbourne, Devonport ... 10th Jan.
 "EASTERN GLOBE" ... Hobart, Lae, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Syd., Melbourne, Aden ... 20th Jan.

• GLEN LINE LTD. •

SCHEDULED SAILINGS TO U.K. & CONTINENT

"GLENHARRY" ... Loads 24th January, sails 7th January, for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Suez, Port Said, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Hamburg & Bremen.
 "GLENHARRY" ... Loads 18th January, sails 21st January, for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Suez, Port Said, Genoa, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg.

(Accepts cargo for Antwerp with Transshipment)

(Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load/discharge cargo)

SCHEDULED ARRIVALS FROM LONDON

Ship	Leaves London	Due H.K.
"RADNORSHIRE"	5th Dec.	11th Jan.
"GLENHARRY"	21st Dec.	25th Jan.
"GLENHARRY"	5th Jan.	9th Feb.
"GLENHARRY"	19th Jan.	23rd Feb.

* (Accept cargo for Kobe, Yokohama, Osaka & Japan ports.)

INTERMEDIATE SERVICE

"PEMBROKESHIRE" ... Left London ... Due H.K. 9th Dec. 12th Feb.

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"JAVANESE PRINCE" ... Loads 15th January, sails 15th January, for Belawan, Corbin, Halifax, Montreal, St. John N.B., Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Hampton Roads and Charleston.
 "JAVANESE PRINCE" ... Sails N.Y. 20th Nov. 10th Dec. 6th Jan. 20th Jan. 14th Feb. 10th Mar.

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